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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Public Law 249--80th Congress

Chapter 339--1st Session

S. 512

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Historical Background . . . . .	1
Digest of Public Law 249 . . . . .	1
Index and Summary of History on S. 512 . . . . .	.1



## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

During the 79th Congress the Department of Agriculture prepared and submitted to Congress proposed legislation to specifically authorize the SCS to perform work in the Virgin Islands. The proposal was sent to Congress April 8, 1946. Representative Flannagan introduced H. R. 6088 on April 12, 1946, a bill to amend Section 17 (a) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act. Senator Thomas introduced S. 2087 on April 19, 1946, a bill to amend Section 17 (a) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act. There was no action on either of the bills. Hearings were held, but not printed.

## DIGEST OF PUBLIC LAW 249

VIRGIN ISLANDS' SOIL CONSERVATION AND FARM LOANS. Extends the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and Titles I and II of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act to the Virgin Islands.

## INDEX AND SUMMARY OF HISTORY ON S. 512

February 5, 1947	S. 512 was introduced by Senator Capper and was referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. Print of the bill as introduced.
May 7, 1947	Senate Committee ordered reported, but did not actually report, S. 512.
May 8, 1947	Senate Committee reported S. 512 with amendments. Senate Report 158. Print of the bill as reported.
May 22, 1947	S. 512 was debated in the Senate and passed as reported.
May 23, 1947	S. 512 was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. Print of the bill as referred.
June 24, 1947	Hearings: House, S. 512. Also resume of hearings.
July 3, 1947	House Committee ordered reported S. 512.
July 11, 1947	House Committee reported S. 512 without amendment. House Report 878. Print of the bill as reported.
July 21, 1947	House discussed S. 512. Passed House as reported.
July 26, 1947	Approved. Public Law 249.









# H. R. 6088

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 12, 1946

Mr. FLANNAGAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To amend section 17 (a) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic  
Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151).

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Conservation  
4       and Domestic Allotment Act is hereby amended to read as  
5       follows: "This Act shall apply to the United States, the  
6       Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and the possessions of  
7       Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and as used in this Act,  
8       the term 'State' includes Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and  
9       the Virgin Islands."

10       SEC. 2. All Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith  
11       are hereby repealed.

79<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

H. R. 6088

## A BILL

To amend section 17 (a) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151).

By Mr. FLANNAGAN

APRIL 12, 1946

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture

# S. 2087

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 19 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma introduced the following bill; which was read twice  
and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

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## A BILL

To amend section 17 (a) of the Soil Conservation and  
Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151).

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Conservation  
4       and Domestic Allotment Act is hereby amended to read as  
5       follows: "This Act shall apply to the United States, the  
6       Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and the possessions of  
7       Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and, as used in this Act,  
8       the term 'State' includes Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and  
9       the Virgin Islands."

10       SEC. 2. All Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith  
11       are hereby repealed.

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## A BILL

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To amend section 17 (a) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151).

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By Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma

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APRIL 19 (legislative day, MARCH 5), 1946  
Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Agriculture and Forestry





80TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 512

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 5, 1947

MR. CAPPER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

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## A BILL

To extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the following sections of title IV of the Bankhead-  
4       Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, except insofar as they  
5       affect title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act,  
6       as amended, are hereby amended as follows:

7       (a) Subsection (b) of section 41 is amended to read:  
8       “The Secretary may administer his power and duties under  
9       this Act through such area to finance State and local offices in



1 the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and  
2 Hawaii and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as he  
3 determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional  
4 offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The  
5 Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area com-  
6 posed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico  
7 and the Virgin Islands) if he determines that the volume  
8 of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate  
9 State offices."

10 (b) Section 54 is amended to read: "The provisions  
11 of this Act shall extend to the Territories of Alaska and  
12 Hawaii and to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the  
13 case of Alaska and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the  
14 term 'county' as used in this Act shall be deemed synonymous  
15 with 'Territory', or any subdivision thereof as may be desig-  
16 nated by the Secretary, and payments under section 33 of  
17 this Act shall be made to the Governor of the Territory or  
18 to the fiscal agent of such subdivision."

19 SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Con-  
20 servation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151), is  
21 amended to read as follows: "This Act shall apply to the  
22 United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and



1 the possessions of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and,  
2 as used in this Act, the term 'State' includes Alaska, Hawaii,  
3 Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands."

4 SEC. 3. All Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith  
5 are hereby repealed.

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# A BILL

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To extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones  
Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation  
and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin  
Islands.

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By Mr. CAPPER

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FEBRUARY 5, 1947

Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Agriculture and Forestry





DIGEST      OF  
CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
Division of Legislative Reports  
(For Department staff only)

Issued      May 8, 1947  
For actions of      May 7, 1947  
80th-1st, No. 86

CONTENTS

C.C.C.....	4	Farm program.....	1	Loans, farm.....	1
Claims.....	12	Federal aid.....	3,15	Machinery, farm.....	13
Cooperatives.....	14	Foreign affairs.....	5,19	Personnel.....	11
Dairy industry.....	9,14	Forests and forestry...	1,10	Prices, support.....	9
Education.....	15	Insect control.....	1	Soil conservation.....	1,22
Electrification, rural.	16,18	Labor.....	2	Sugar and sirups.....	8
Expenditures.....	17	Labor, farm.....	7	Territories & possessions.	1
Extension work.....	21	Lands, reclamation....	16,18	Transportation.....	6,20

HIGHLIGHTS: Senate committee ordered reported measures to create joint committee to investigate agriculture, to protect forests from insects and diseases, and to extend soil conservation and tenant-loan programs to Virgin Islands. CCC-charter proposal was taken from S. Banking and Currency and referred to Agriculture and Forestry. Rep. Hope introduced bills to extend Sugar Act 1 year and to provide for Federal-State cooperation regarding farm labor. Rep. Murray (Wis.) introduced bill directing USDA to support milk prices.

SENATE

1. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee ordered reported the following measures, on which reports are expected to be filed today: (pp. D213-4)
  - S. Con. Res. 11, to create a joint committee to investigate certain matters affecting agriculture, with amendments.
  - S. 597, to provide for protection of forests against destructive insects and diseases, without amendment.
  - S. 512, to extend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and Title 1 of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act to the Virgin Islands, with perfecting amendment.

(Copies of these measures, as reported, will not be available until the reports are submitted, when this Digest will carry a statement to that effect.)

2. LABOR. Continued debate on S. 1126, the labor-management bill (pp. 4777-808).
3. FEDERAL AID. Received from the Mich. Legislature a memorial opposing Federal aid to States (pp. 4775-6).
4. CCC CHARTER. The proposed legislation to provide for a CCC charter was, at the request of Chairman Tobey of the Banking and Currency Committee, referred to the Agriculture and Forestry Committee (p. 4777).

HOUSE

5. FOREIGN RELIEF. Continued debate on H.R. 2616, the Greece-Turkey aid bill (pp. 4812-71).
6. ST. LAWRENCE WATERWAY. Received a N.J. Legislature resolution opposing an agreement for the construction of this project (p. 4873).



BILLS INTRODUCED

7. FARM LABOR. H.R. 3367, by Rep. Hope, Kans., to enable the Secretary, through the Federal Extension Service, to cooperate with the land-grant colleges and universities in carrying out a program for the collection and dissemination of information with respect to the supply of, the need for, and the effective use of agricultural workers. To Agriculture Committee. (p. 4872.)
8. SUGAR. H.R. 3368, by Rep. Hope, Kans., to extend, for an additional year, the provisions of the Sugar Act of 1937 and the taxes with respect to sugar. To Agriculture Committee. (p. 4872.)
9. PRICE SUPPORTS; DAIRY INDUSTRY. H.R. 3370, by Rep. Murray, Wis., to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to support the price of milk at not less than \$3.10 per 100 pounds. To Banking and Currency Committee. (p. 4872.)
10. NATIONAL FORESTS. S. 1240, by Sen. Cain, Wash., to transfer certain lands from the Olympic National Park to the Olympic National Forest, Wash. To Public Lands Committee. (p. 4776.)
11. PERSONNEL. S. 1244, by Sen. Magnuson, Wash., for the purpose of regulating the conditions of employment of mechanics and helpers, at all Government navy yards, naval stations, arsenals, and other Government establishments. To Armed Services Committee.
12. CLAIMS. S. 1224 (see Digest 84) amends Sec. 410(a) of the Federal Tort Claims Act so as to allow payment by the U.S. of punitive damages in those States in which only punitive damages are allowed in the event of wrongful death.

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

13. FARM MACHINERY. Extension of remarks of Rep. Hagen, Minn., discussing the shortage of farm machinery as caused by non-cooperation of Government agencies in steel scrap efforts, and including a leaflet on the steel situation (p. A2256).
14. DAIRY INDUSTRY; COOPERATIVES. Rep. Reed, N.Y., inserted Chas. W. Holman's (Economist) statement on the importance of the dairy industry and farmer-cooperatives and tariff policy regarding the industry (pp. A2259-61).
15. EDUCATION. Extension of remarks of Rep. Hoey, N.C., favoring Federal aid for education, and including Walter Lippman's article on the subject (p. A2248).
16. RECLAMATION; ELECTRIFICATION. Rep. Horan, Wash., inserted a Spokane (Wash.) resolution urging support of appropriations for the Bonneville Power Administration (p. A2268).
17. EXPENDITURES. Rep. Norrell, Ark., inserted an Arkansas Democrat editorial, "Federal Spending and Taxes Too High" (p. A2268).  
Rep. Jenkins, Ohio, inserted a Sandusky, Ohio, Register-Star-News editorial, "Truman Should Practice What He Preaches" (pp. A2268-9).
18. RECLAMATION; ELECTRIFICATION. Rep. Angell, Ore., inserted a Portland Oregonian editorial opposing appropriation cuts and discussing work of the Bonneville Power project (p. A2276).  
Rep. Angell, Ore., inserted a Portland (Ore.) Journal article, "How Northwest Projects Pay Their Way" (pp. A2277-8).
19. FOREIGN AFFAIRS. Rep. Javits, N.Y., inserted the State Department's report,

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate continued debate on labor bill and by a vote of 43 to 44 rejected Ball amendment; House concluded general debate on Greek-Turkish assistance bill.

Bills on forest protection, extension of soil conservation program to Virgin Islands, and investigation of agriculture approved by Senate group.

Spanish-American War pension bill approved by House Committee.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages 4775-4777*

**Bills Introduced:** Six bills were introduced, as follows:  
S. 1240-S. 1245. Pages 4776-4777

**Bills Reported:** Bill was reported, as follows: S. 1022, authorizing adequate White House Police force (S. Rept. 157). Page 4776

**Bills Referred:** The following House-passed private claims bills were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary: H. R. 334, 407, 765, 770, 821, 889, 1015, 1067, 1788, 1866, 1954, 1956, and 2257. (For passage in House, see Digest, p. D210.) Page 4777

**Red Cross:** Concurred in the House amendments to S. 591, reincorporating the American Red Cross, clearing the bill for the President's signature. Page 4775

**Nominations:** The following nominations were received: William E. Warne of California, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior; Vice Admiral Alexander Sharp, to be placed on the retired list with the rank of Vice Admiral, and 37 promotions in the Foreign Service. Pages 4808-4809

**Labor Legislation:** Senate continued debate on S. 1126, labor bill, and by a vote of 43 yeas to 44 nays defeated the amendment sponsored by Senator Ball and others defining the term "representatives" to mean a labor

organization composed solely of employees of one employer or employees employed in the same metropolitan district by different employers, and making it an unfair labor practice for a national union to coerce a local union in the exercise of the collective-bargaining processes. Later Senator Barkley moved to reconsider the vote and this motion was laid on the table by voice vote at the motion of Senator Hatch, thus prohibiting future reconsideration of the Ball amendment. An amendment by Senator Flanders was adopted which would clarify the definition of the term "supervisor." By unanimous consent it was ordered that at 12:30, May 8, the Senate would vote on the amendment offered by Senators Ball, Byrd, George, and Smith relating to restrictions on payments to employee representatives. Pages 4777-4808

**Program for Thursday:** Recessed at 5 p. m. until 11 a. m. Thursday, May 8, when debate will be resumed on S. 1126, labor bill, and vote on pending amendment as indicated above.

### Reports on Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

#### AGRICULTURE INVESTIGATION, FOREST PROTECTION, AND VIRGIN ISLANDS

**Committee on Agriculture and Forestry:** In executive session the committee approved S. Con. Res. 11, to create a joint committee of 14 to investigate certain matters



affecting agriculture, with amendments; S. 597, to provide for the protection of forests against destructive insects and diseases, without amendment; and S. 512, to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands, with perfecting amendment. Reports on bills are expected to be filed tomorrow.

#### INTERIOR APPROPRIATION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on H. R. 3123, Interior Department Appropriation Bill, heard the following witnesses: Lee Muck, Land Utilization Division; Edward N. Cavanaugh, Director of Soil Conservation; Vernon D. Northrup, Director of the Budget and Administrative Management Division; Fred W. Johnson, Director, Bureau of Land Management; Joel David Wolfsohn, Associate Director; Thomas C. Havell, Chief, Branch of Adjudication; Depue Falck, Chief, Branch of Administration; J. Will Robinson, Chief, Branch of Range Management; A. Z. Nelson, Acting Chief, Branch of Timber and Resource Management; and Milton W. Reid, Acting Assistant Chief, Branch of Range Management.

#### NATIONAL DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT

*Committee on Armed Services:* Continuing hearings on S. 758, to create a National Defense Establishment, the committee heard Fleet Admiral William F. Halsey, Representative Andrews of New York, and Brig. Gen. Merritt A. Edson, USMC. Admiral Halsey warned against legislation that would permit one branch of the armed service to swallow another branch. Representative Andrews supported the bill, and suggested several amendments. General Edson opposed the bill, saying the proposed Executive order to be issued when the President approves the bill, would not adequately protect the Marine Corps. Hearings continue Friday, May 9.

#### WAR SURPLUS ADMINISTRATION

*Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments:* Subcommittee heard further testimony from WAA Administrator Robert M. Littlejohn on the dismissal of M. M. Boyd as Deputy Administrator of the WAA; he also discussed the question of price policy on surplus machine tools. Robert M. Field, WAA Associate Administrator, also testified on both of these issues. Committee adjourned subject to the call of the Chair.

#### INCOME TAX REDUCTION

*Committee on Finance:* In executive session the committee heard Senator McCarran discuss two of his proposed amendments relative to double taxation of corporate dividends and deductions of expenditures for improvement or construction of real or personal property; Senator McClellan support three of his amendments

on community property, increase of personal income tax exemptions, and family partnerships; and Senator Hickel talk about family partnerships. Committee continues tomorrow.

#### VETERANS' SUBSISTENCE

*Committee on Labor and Public Welfare:* Continuing hearings on veterans' bills relating to education and on-the-job training programs, established by the Servicemen's Readjustment Act (S. 112, S. 208, S. 324, S. 326, S. 407, S. 855, S. 914, S. 956, S. 977, S. 986, S. 1056, S. 1232, and S. 1236), the committee heard Chet Paterson, American Veterans' Committee, Elliott Newcomb, AMVETS, and Clarence Adamy, AMVETS, testify generally in favor of increasing subsistence allowances and increasing the ceilings established for on-the-job training programs. Hearings continue tomorrow.

#### RECLAMATION PROJECTS

*Committee on Public Lands:* Irrigation and Reclamation Subcommittee continuing its hearings on S. 912, to exempt certain reclamation projects from the land limitation provisions of the Federal reclamation laws, heard Senator Johnson of Colorado and three representatives from the San Luis Valley (Colorado project) testify in support of the bill, and the following witnesses appear in opposition to the bill: William W. Warner, Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation; George Sehlmeier, O. M. Davis, and Frank Swett, all of California.

#### STREAM POLLUTION

*Committee on Public Works:* Subcommittee on Flood Control and Rivers and Harbors heard R. W. Digges, Hampton Roads Sanitation District Commission, Va., direct his attention to certain financial features of the bill; Andrew B. Crichton, Johnstown Coal & Coke Co., Johnstown, Pa., oppose the bill on grounds that control of pollution is a function of the State, and in any event coal mine drainage relating to stream pollution should be exempt from provisions of the bill; Dr. Harold J. Rose, vice president and director of research of Bituminous Coal Research, Inc., oppose the bill because of the very general wording and lack of any tangible limits or specifications as to what constitutes pollution, and because it places too much power in one agency; and Harry Gandy, Jr., National Coal Association, oppose the bill. Hearings continue tomorrow.

#### SMALL NEWSPAPERS—LABOR UNIONS

*Special Committee to Study Problems of American Small Business:* In connection with its investigation of problems of smaller newspapers, the Subcommittee on Newsprint and Paper Shortages heard Woodruff Randolph, president of International Typographical Union, accompanied by other officials of the union, testify in answer to previous testimony on this same subject by representatives of newspaper associations.







DIGEST OF  
CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

Division of Legislative Reports  
(For Department staff only)

Issued May 9, 1947  
For actions of May 8, 1947  
80th-1st, No. 87

CONTENTS

Accounting.....	2	Foreign affairs.....	11,13,24	Postal service.....	25
Animal industry.....	15	Forests and forestry.....	1	Prices, support,.....	9,19
Budgeting.....	23	Insect control.....	1	Research.....	15
Economy.....	7	Labor.....	8	School-lunch program....	4
Education.....	4	Lands, farm.....	17	Small business.....	16
Electrification, rural...	21	Lands, reclamation....	12,20	Soil conservation.....	1
Farm program.....	1,18	Legislative budget.....	6	Sugar.....	10
Federal aid.....	19	Loans, farm.....	1	Territories & possessions	1,17
Fertilizers.....	14	Organization, executive...	4	Transportation.....	5,22
Flood control.....	20	Personnel.....	3,7,26	Wool.....	9,19

HIGHLIGHTS: Senate committee reported measures to extend SOS-FHA-ACP to Virgin Islands, protect forests from insects and diseases, and investigate agriculture. Sen. Lucas criticized failure to complete action on Legislative Budget and inserted list of Republican bills that would cost money. Sen. Hickenlooper et al introduced national-fertilizer-policy bill. Rep. Lane criticized wool bill, and Rep. Murray supported it.

SENATE

1. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported the measures mentioned in item 1 of Digest 86, as follows: S. 512, Virgin Islands (S. Rept. 158); S. 597, forest insects and diseases (S. Rept. 159); and S. Con. Res. 11, investigation of agricultural situation (S. Rept. 160) (p. 4835).
2. DISBURSEMENTS. Received from Treasury, GAO, and Budget Bureau a proposed bill "to establish a procedure for facilitating the payment of certain Government checks." To Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee. (p. 4884.)
3. RETIREMENT. Sen. Tydings, Md., submitted an amendment which he intends to propose to S. 637, the civil-service retirement bill. (p. 4886).
4. REORGANIZATION. At the request of Chairman Taft of the Labor and Public Welfare Committee, S. 1239 was taken from that Committee and referred to the Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee (p. 4886). This bill makes the Office of Education an independent agency; transfers to the Office various activities, including the school-lunch program; directs the Budget Bureau to study and report to Congress on whether additional functions should be transferred to the Office; and creates a National Board of Education to control and supervise the Office.
5. ST. LAWRENCE WATERWAY. Sen. Overton, La., inserted letters from ship companies discussing this project (pp. 4901-9).
6. LEGISLATIVE BUDGET. Sen. Lucas, Ill., criticized failure to complete action on this matter, and he and other Senators discussed various phases of the appropriations situation. Sen. Lucas inserted a list of bills showing "additional cost of legislation pending in the eightieth Congress introduced by Republican members." (pp. 4909-16.)



7. PERSONNEL; ECONOMY. Sen. Dworshak, Idaho, urged reduction in Federal employment (p. 4916).
8. LABOR. Continued debate on S. 1126, the labor-management bill (pp. 4875-84, 4887-900, 4916-19).

#### HOUSE

9. WOOL. Rep. Lane, Mass., spoke in opposition to S. 814, the wool price-support bill as reported in the House, opposing particularly the import fee provision, and claiming that the bill "would fix the price of wool for 2 years at over 100 percent of today's high parity, and could be 130 percent or more should parity drop to wartime levels" (pp. 4959-60).  
Rep. Murray, Wis., spoke in favor of S. 814, the wool price-support bill as reported in the House, stating that he hoped the bill would be passed unanimously (pp. 4960-1).
10. SUGAR. Rep. Crawford, Mich., inserted a table on domestic sugar production compared with Cuban sugar production and claimed that the figures demonstrate the dependability of the domestic supply (p. 4920-1).
11. FOREIGN RELIEF. Continued debate on H.R. 2616, the Greece-Turkey aid bill (pp. 4921-58).
12. RECLAMATION. Received a Puerto Rico Legislature memorial urging that the benefits of the Reclamation Act be extended to Puerto Rico (p. 4962).
13. FOREIGN AGRICULTURE. Received a petition from the Model Agri-Pisci-Poultry and Cattle Farm, India, urging consideration of their resolution on the availability of funds for a farm-trust plan in India (p. 4963).

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

14. FERTILIZERS. S. 1251, by Sen. Hickenlooper, Iowa (for himself and others), to provide for the establishment of a national soil-fertility policy and program, to authorize the construction of certain fertilizer plants as a part of said program, to provide for the testing and demonstrating of fertilizer produced in such Government and other plants on a Nation-wide scale, and to provide for the exploration of fertilizer resources on the public lands. To Agriculture and Forestry Committee. (p. 4886.) Remarks of author (p. 4886).
15. RESEARCH; ANIMAL INDUSTRY. S. 1249, by Sen. Wherry, Nebr., authorizing additional research and investigation into problems and methods relating to the eradication of cattle grubs. To Agriculture and Forestry Committee. (p. 4886.)
16. SMALL BUSINESS. S. Con. Res. 14, by Sen. Brooks, Ill., for recognition of to the claim of small businessmen for equal representation as an entity with labor, agriculture, and other groups. To Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. (p. 4886.)
17. FARM LANDS; TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS. H.R. 3377, by Del. Farrington, T.H., to amend Sec. 73 of the Organic Act of Hawaii, relating to opening of agricultural lands for settlement. To Public Lands Committee. (p. 4962.)
18. INVESTIGATION. H.Con. Res. 46 (see Digest 85) establishes a joint congressional committee, from the agriculture committees, to investigate existing and pending legislation and the trends, needs, and problems of agriculture, including the

## EXTENDING PROVISIONS OF THE BANKHEAD-JONES FARM TENANT ACT AND THE SOIL CONSERVATION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACT TO THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

MAY 8 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1947.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. CAPPER, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany S. 512]

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (S. 512) to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands, having considered same report thereon with the recommendation that it do pass with the following amendments.

1. On page 1, line 9, after the word "area" strike out the word "to".

2. On page 1, line 9, after the word "finance", insert a comma.

3. On page 1, line 9, after the word "State", insert a comma.

A letter from the Secretary of Agriculture, dated March 24, 1947, recommending the enactment of this legislation is attached hereto and made a part of said report.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
Washington, March 24, 1947.

HON. ARTHUR CAPPER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture and Forestry,*  
*United States Senate.*

DEAR SENATOR CAPPER: This is in further reference to your request of February 7, 1947, which was acknowledged on February 11, for a report on S. 512, a bill to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands.

Section 1 of the proposed legislation amends subsection (b) of section 41, and section 54 of title IV of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act as amended, except insofar as these sections affect title III, by adding the Virgin Islands to the specified areas to which the provisions of the sections to be amended are extended. The Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and Puerto Rico are named by the present sections and the proposed amendments merely add the Virgin Islands.

Section 2 of the bill amends subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, by specifically adding the Virgin Islands to the areas in which that act shall apply. When the act of April 27, 1935 (49 Stat. 163-164), an act to provide for the protection of land resources against soil



erosion, and for other purposes, was amended by the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of February 29, 1936 (49 Stat. 1148-1152), by adding additional sections, section 17 (a) of the amendatory legislation while including most of the other lands of the Nation, unfortunately omitted naming the Virgin Islands. The United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and the possession of Puerto Rico were named and the proposed amendment merely adds the Virgin Islands. The language of section 2 of the bill is identical with section 1 of S. 2087 and H. R. 6088, introduced, respectively, by the chairmen of the Committees on Agriculture and Forestry of the Senate, and on Agriculture of the House, in the second session of the Seventy-ninth Congress, upon the recommendation of this Department.

Section 3 of the bill repeals all acts or parts of acts in conflict with the proposed legislation.

Under the provisions of the Farmers Home Administration Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 1062), the Farm Security Administration and the Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Division of the Farm Credit Administration were abolished and the assets, functions, and liabilities of these two agencies were transferred to the Farmers Home Administration on November 1, 1946. Prior to the enactment of this legislation, the Farm Security Administration was authorized to make rural rehabilitation operating loans in the Virgin Islands. However, no authority existed for the making of farm purchase loans by the Farm Security Administration under title I of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U. S. C. 1000-1006) or for making crop production and harvesting loans by the Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Division of Farm Credit Administration under the act of January 29, 1937, as amended (12 U. S. C. 1020i-1020n, 1020o). The Farmers Home Administration Act provides for production and subsistence loans, tenant purchase loans, and insured mortgages, but does not provide authority for these operations in the Virgin Islands. The reasons for the exclusion of the Virgin Islands from the benefits of the programs administered by the Farmers Home Administration were not indicated in the legislative history of the act. The proposed legislation would authorize the Farmers Home Administration to administer such programs in the islands.

As already stated, legislation identical to section 2 of S. 512 was recommended by the Department to the Seventy-ninth Congress. Subsequent to this recommendation, Virgin Islands laws have created two soil conservation districts—one including the island of St. Croix and the other the islands of St. Thomas and St. John. These districts, as well as the farmers and ranchers, are requesting assistance from the Soil Conservation Service in carrying out of soil and water conservation work. Although, due to the size of the islands, the soil and water conservation problems do not affect as extensive areas as in most of the States, they are, however, of equal importance to the people concerned. Their voluntary action in forming soil conservation districts with which the Department could cooperate most effectively in rendering the needed assistance, has further increased the Department's desire of having the Soil Conservation Service give its full aid in helping them to establish a sound conservation program in the islands. The proposed legislation would permit such a program.

Similarly, the extending of authority of sections 7 to 17 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands will permit assistance in obtaining prompt and widespread application of suitable conservation practices through payments and other assistance to farmers provided in the agricultural conservation program administered by the Production and Marketing Administration. The Department is in favor of S. 512 from this point of view also.

The Governor recently forwarded to the President, the Senate, the House of Representatives, and to the Secretaries of the Interior and of this Department copies of a resolution passed December 6, 1946, by the legislative assembly, petitioning for the enactment of appropriate legislation to permit activities of the Farm Security Administration and the Soil Conservation Service in the islands. The Virgin Islands, as a possession of the United States, would appear equitably entitled to such assistance in accordance with the desires of its local governments and people. Moreover, the importance of protecting, maintaining, and improving suitable agricultural conditions on all of the agricultural lands of the Nation is generally recognized.

For these reasons the Department is in favor of S. 512 and recommends that it be enacted.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that it has no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

CLINTON P. ANDERSON, *Secretary.*

Calendar No. 160

80TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 512

[Report No. 158]

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 5, 1947

Mr. CAPPER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

MAY 8 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1947

Reported by Mr. CAPPER, with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

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## A BILL

To extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands.

1      *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2      *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3      That the following sections of title IV of the Bankhead-  
4      Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, except insofar as they  
5      affect title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act,  
6      as amended, are hereby amended as follows:

7      (a) Subsection (b) of section 41 is amended to read:  
8      "The Secretary may administer his power and duties under  
9      this Act through such area to finance, State, and local offices

1 in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and  
2 Hawaii and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as he  
3 determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional  
4 offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The  
5 Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area com-  
6 posed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico  
7 and the Virgin Islands) if he determines that the volume  
8 of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate  
9 State offices.”

10 (b) Section 54 is amended to read: “The provisions  
11 of this Act shall extend to the Territories of Alaska and  
12 Hawaii and to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the  
13 case of Alaska and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the  
14 term ‘county’ as used in this Act shall be deemed synonymous  
15 with ‘Territory’, or any subdivision thereof as may be desig-  
16 nated by the Secretary, and payments under section 33 of  
17 this Act shall be made to the Governor of the Territory or  
18 to the fiscal agent of such subdivision.”

19 SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Con-  
20 servation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151), is  
21 amended to read as follows: “This Act shall apply to the  
22 United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and  
23 the ~~possessions~~ *possession* of Puerto Rico and the Virgin



1 Islands, and, as used in this Act, the term 'State' includes  
2 Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands."

3 SEC. 3. All Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith  
4 are hereby repealed.

80TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 512**

[Report No. 158]

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**A BILL**

To extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones  
Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation  
and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin  
Islands.

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By Mr. CAPPER

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FEBRUARY 5, 1947

Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Agriculture and Forestry

MAY 8 (legislative day, APRIL 21), 1947

Reported with amendments



"Whereas there survive 3,752,600 veterans of World I ranging in age from 44 years to 90 years, with an average age of 54 years; and

"Whereas the death rate of these veterans exceeds by 12 percent the death rate of non-veterans of corresponding age, resulting in 49,511 deaths among them in 1946, and the deaths of 1,011,469 since the end of World War I; and

"Whereas, many of the survivors suffer from disabilities related to their war service which they have never been able to establish, and many others are acquiring disabilities relating to their age; and

"Whereas their service to their country in a time of peril should be recognized by their Government; Now, therefore, be it

*"Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota, That we hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact legislation which will provide for veterans of World War I and World War II pensions in the sum of \$75 per month at age 60; be it further*

*"Resolved, That the secretary of state of the State of Minnesota is instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Member of Congress from the State of Minnesota."*

A concurrent resolution of the Legislature of the State of Minnesota; to the Committee on Banking and Currency:

"Concurrent resolution memorializing Congress to cause to be issued coins commemorating the Minnesota Territorial Centennial in 1949

"Whereas the organic act of Congress to establish the Territory of Minnesota was enacted March 3, 1849; and

"Whereas plans are being made for a State-wide celebration of this centennial in 1949; and

"Whereas in other State observances commemorative coins have been issued by the United States Treasury; Now, therefore, be it

*"Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota, That Congress be requested to enact such legislation as is necessary to authorize and direct the United States Treasury to issue 150,000 commemorative half-dollar coins, dated 1949; and be it further*

*"Resolved, That said coins be delivered to the Minnesota Historical Society upon payment therefor and that said society be, and it hereby is, authorized to arrange for the sale and distribution thereof; be it further*

*"Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the Members of Congress from the State of Minnesota."*

A concurrent resolution of the Legislature of the State of Minnesota; to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

"Concurrent resolution memorializing the President, Secretary of State, and Congress of the United States to direct our representatives in the United Nations to support the long-established and officially declared policy of our Government favoring the establishment of the Jewish national home in Palestine and the immediate opening of the doors of Palestine to large Jewish immigration

"Whereas at the 1945 general session of the Legislature of the State of Minnesota a joint resolution was adopted approving the establishment in Palestine of a Jewish national home as called for by the Balfour Declaration and the mandate entrusted to Great Britain by the League of Nations, and calling for the abrogation of the white paper restricting Jewish immigration into Palestine and limiting the purchase of land in Palestine by Jews; and

"Whereas, since the adoption of said resolution, said restrictions have continued, and the displaced Jewish persons of Europe have been prevented from finding in Palestine the home which had been promised to them by 52 nations of the world, including the United States of America; and

"Whereas the attainment of a just peace and the maintenance of a peaceful world requires a righteous and equitable settlement of the Palestine question, to the end that the hundreds of thousands of homeless Jews of Europe may, as of right, be afforded the opportunity to enter Palestine and there reestablish the Jewish commonwealth; and

"Whereas the United Nations, at the request of Great Britain as the mandatory power, is convening a special session of its General Assembly to consider the Palestine matter on April 28, 1947: Now, therefore, be it

*"Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota (the Senate concurring therein), That the Government of the United States, through the State Department and the President, direct our representatives in the United Nations to support the long-established and officially declared policy of our Government favoring the establishment of the Jewish national home in Palestine and the immediate opening of the doors of Palestine to large Jewish immigration; be it further*

*"Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the United States of America."*

A concurrent resolution of the Legislature of the State of Minnesota; to the Committee on Finance:

"Concurrent resolution memorializing the Congress of the United States of America that H. R. 1759, introduced by Representative REEVES, of Missouri, or any other suitable and appropriate legislation, be now enacted permitting equal division of income between husband and wife for income-tax purposes by the citizens and residents of all of the States of the United States

"Whereas an inequity exists between the citizens and residents of the several States of the United States in that residents of nine States having community-property laws are privileged to divide incomes between husband and wife for income-tax purposes, thereby reducing the income taxes required to be paid by said residents, which privilege is being denied to the residents of the 39 States not having community-property laws; and

"Whereas, by reason of the premises, legal privileges are enjoyed by a minority of the citizens of the United States of America, solely determined by residence, which are not permitted to all the citizens of the United States, which fact gives rise to a discrimination in respect of income taxes which should be removed; and

"Whereas it is within the power of the Congress of the United States of America to correct such inequity by adopting suitable and appropriate legislation therefor: Now, therefore, be it

*"Resolved by the Senate (the house of representatives concurring), That the Congress of the United States of America be, and it is hereby, respectfully memorialized now to enact into law, as a part of the Internal Revenue Code, H. R. 1759, introduced by Representative REEVES, of Missouri, or any other suitable and appropriate legislation permitting equal division of income between husband and wife for income-tax purposes by the citizens and residents of all of the States of the United States; and be it*

*"Resolved, That the attention of the Congress of the United States be invited to other bills now pending in the United States Senate and in the United States House of Representatives embodying the principle of the aforesaid Reeves bill (H. R. 1759), among which bills are the following: Amendment to H. R. 1 (Knutson bill), introduced by Mr. BUTLER; S. 626, introduced by Mr. CORDON; S. 649, introduced by Mr. TYDINGS; S. 550, introduced by Mr. LANGER; H. R. 2219, introduced by Mr. ANGELL; H. R. 2002, introduced by Mr. ROBERTSON; which principle is hereby*

approved and recommended for enactment by the Congress; and be it further

*"Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate, the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Congressman from the State of Minnesota."*

By Mr. CAPPER:

A petition signed by 122 citizens of Garnett, Kans., favoring the enactment of Senate bill 265, to prohibit the transportation of alcoholic-beverage advertising in interstate commerce; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

#### PROTEST AGAINST LIQUOR ADVERTISING

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to present for appropriate reference a petition signed by 1,721 citizens and voters of Kent and Sussex Counties, Del., praying for the enactment of S. 265, to prohibit the transportation of alcoholic beverage advertising in interstate commerce and the broadcasting of alcoholic beverage advertising over the radio. The petition calls attention to the pernicious effect of this advertising in that it is a constant invitation and enticement to drink. It furthermore points out that the American people expended \$7,707,000,000 for alcoholic beverages in 1946 as compared with \$3,700,000,000 in 1942, and that during this period there has been a corresponding increase each year in crime.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the petition will be received and referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

#### REPORTS OF A COMMITTEE

The following reports of a committee were submitted:

By Mr. CAPPER, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry:

S. 512. A bill to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands; with amendments (Rept. No. 158); and

S. 597. A bill to provide for the protection of forests against destructive insects and diseases, and for other purposes; without amendment (Rept. No. 159); and

S. Con. Res. 11. Concurrent resolution creating a joint committee to investigate certain matters affecting agriculture; with amendments (Rept. No. 160), and, under the rule, the concurrent resolution was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

#### PERSONS EMPLOYED BY COMMITTEES WHO ARE NOT FULL-TIME SENATE OR COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate a report for the month of April 1947, from the chairman of a certain committee, in response to Senate Resolution 319 (79th Cong.), relative to persons employed by committees who are not full-time employees of the Senate or any committee thereof, which was ordered to lie on the table and to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE PROGRAM

APRIL 1947.

To the Senate:

The above-mentioned committee hereby submits the following report showing the name of persons employed by the committee who are not full-time employees of the



Senate or of the committee for the month of March 1947, in compliance with the terms of Senate Resolution 319, agreed to August 23, 1944:

W. Harold Lane, 1436 North Inglewood, Arlington, Va.; Bureau of Internal Revenue; amount \$7,102.20.

Walter E. Connell, 4632 Yuma Street NW.; Bureau of Internal Revenue; amount, \$5,905.20; to March 25, 1947.

O. BREWSTER,  
Chairman.

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

Bills were introduced, read the first time, and, by unanimous consent, the second time, and referred as follows:

By Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina: S. 1246. A bill authorizing the Secretary of War to furnish headstones to mark the actual or honorary burial places of deceased members or former members of the military and naval forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ROBERTSON of Wyoming: S. 1247. A bill to rescind Executive Order No. 7868, April 15, 1938; and

S. 1248. A bill to provide that moneys received from certain lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior shall be covered into the general fund of the Treasury; to the Committee on Public Lands.

By Mr. WHERRY: S. 1249. A bill authorizing additional research and investigation into problems and methods relating to the eradication of cattle grubs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

By Mr. IVES (by request): S. 1250. A bill for the relief of William Dudley Ward-Smith; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. WHERRY, Mr. HILL, Mr. CAPPER, Mr. THYE, Mr. STEWART, Mr. AIKEN, Mr. BUSHFIELD, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. WILSON) introduced Senate bill 1251, to provide for the establishment of a national soil-fertility policy and program, to authorize the construction of certain fertilizer plants as a part of said program, to provide for the testing and demonstrating of fertilizer produced in such Government and other plants on a Nation-wide scale, to provide for the exploration of fertilizer resources on the public lands, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, and appears under a separate heading.)

By Mr. GURNEY (by request): S. 1252. A bill making certain changes in the organization of the Navy Department, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

#### NATIONAL SOIL FERTILITY POLICY AND PROGRAM

Mr. HICKENLOOPER. Mr. President, on behalf of myself, the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. WHERRY], the Senator from Alabama [Mr. HILL], the Senator from Kansas [Mr. CAPPER], the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. THYE], the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. STEWART], the Senator from Vermont [Mr. AIKEN], the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. BUSHFIELD], the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. YOUNG] and my colleague the senior Senator from Iowa [Mr. WILSON], I ask unanimous consent to introduce a bill to provide for the establishment of a national soil fertility policy and program. I suggest that the bill be referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

There being no objection, the bill (S. 1251) to provide for the establishment of a national soil fertility policy and program, to authorize the construction

of certain fertilizer plants as a part of said program, to provide for the testing and demonstrating of fertilizer produced in such Government and other plants on a Nation-wide scale, to provide for the exploration of fertilizer resources on the public lands, and for other purposes, introduced by Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. WHERRY, Mr. HILL, Mr. CAPPER, Mr. THYE, Mr. STEWART, Mr. AIKEN, Mr. BUSHFIELD, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. WILSON), was received, read twice by its title, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

#### REPRESENTATION OF SMALL BUSINESSMEN ON GOVERNMENT POLICY-MAKING BODIES

Mr. BROOKS submitted the following concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 14), which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce:

Whereas the 3,650,000 small business concerns in the United States are owned and operated, on the average, by 2½ persons or a total of 9,125,000 persons, constituting 92 percent of our entire economy; and

Whereas these concerns employ about 65 percent of all commercial and industrial wage earners and produce about 45 percent of our entire output of commodities: Therefore be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That the Congress recognize the valid claim of the small businessman of America to equal representation as an entity, with labor, agriculture, and other groups, on those Government commissions, boards, committees, or other agencies in which the interests of the American economy may be affected; and that the President of the United States, the members of the Cabinet, and other officers of the Government be and hereby are respectfully urged to accord the small businessman of America representation on such Government agencies including particularly policy-making bodies created by executive appointment.

#### AMENDMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT ACT—AMENDMENT

Mr. TYDINGS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 637) to amend the Civil Service Retirement Act of May 29, 1930, as amended, which was ordered to lie on the table and to be printed.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, WELFARE, AND EDUCATION—CHANGE OF REFERENCE

Mr. TAFT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare be discharged from the further consideration of Senate bill 1239, to coordinate the educational functions of the Federal Government in a single agency; to define its organization, powers, and duties; and for other purposes, and that the bill be referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments. The latter committee now has before it a bill dealing with the general question of the reorganization of the Department of Health, Welfare, and Education, and Senate bill 1239 comes within the scope of that bill.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Ohio? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session,

The PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate a message from the Pres-

ident of the United States submitting the nomination of Otto Schoen, of Missouri, to be United States marshal for the eastern district of Missouri, vice William B. Fahy, term expired, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### PORTAL-TO-PORTAL PAY

[Mr. THOMAS of Utah asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD a letter concerning the portal-to-portal pay bill, addressed to the President of the United States, and signed by various persons, which appears in the Appendix.]

#### EXECUTION OF REV. DR. JOSEPH TISO—EDITORIAL FROM THE MESSENGER

[Mr. LUCAS asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD an editorial entitled "Another Victim," dealing with the execution of Rev. Joseph Tiso, wartime President of Slovakia, published in the Messenger, official publication of the diocese of Belleville, Ill., which appears in the Appendix.]

#### PUTTING THE PRESSURE ON CONGRESS—ARTICLE BY RICHARD L. STROUT

[Mr. AIKEN asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD an article entitled "Putting the Pressure on Congress," written by Richard L. Strout, and published in the Christian Science Monitor, May 7, 1947, which appears in the Appendix.]

#### ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY—EDITORIAL FROM THE WASHINGTON POST

[Mr. AIKEN asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD an editorial entitled "St. Lawrence Seaway," published in the Washington Post of May 8, 1947, which appears in the Appendix.]

#### HOW A LOBBY TRICKS—ARTICLE BY THOMAS L. STOKES

[Mr. AIKEN asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD an article entitled "How A Lobby Tricks," written by Thomas L. Stokes, and published in the Washington Daily News of May 3, 1947, which appears in the Appendix.]

#### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?—POEM BY HAROLD C. PATCH

[Mr. AIKEN asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD an original poem entitled "Where Do We Go From Here?" written by Harold C. Patch, of Perkinsville, Vt., which appears in the Appendix.]

#### DISPLACED PERSONS OF EUROPE—EDITORIAL FROM NEW YORK TIMES

[Mr. McGRATH asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD an editorial entitled "People Without Countries," published in the New York Times of May 2, 1947, which appears in the Appendix.]

#### THE STORY OF NEW HAVEN'S INDUSTRIES—BY HENRY H. TOWNSHEND

[Mr. McMAHON asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD an article entitled "The Story of New Haven's Industries," written by Henry H. Townshend, and published in the Journal of the Union and New Haven Trust Co. which appears in the Appendix.]

#### LUCAS OFFERS A TAX PLAN—EDITORIAL FROM THE CHICAGO SUN

[Mr. McMAHON asked and obtained leave to have printed in the RECORD an editorial entitled "Lucas Offers a Tax Plan," from the Chicago Sun for Sunday, May 4, 1947, which appears in the Appendix.]

#### CORRECTION—ATTITUDE OF ALEXANDER WHITNEY TOWARD CLOSED SHOP

Mr. HAWKES. Mr. President, I desire to make a brief statement at this







DIGEST OF  
CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
Division of Legislative Reports  
(For Department staff only)

Issued May 23, 1947  
For actions of May 22, 1947  
80th-1st, No. 97

CONTENTS

Appropriations.....	2,11	Health.....	12,17	Quarantines.....	27
Dairy industry.....	4	Insect control.....	7	Research.....	14
Education.....	13	Lands, farm.....	21	Soil conservation.....	5,23
Electrification.....	25	Lands, grant.....	10	Sugar and sirup.....	20
Farm program.....	22	Lands, reclamation.....	6,25	Taxation.....	11
Fibres.....	24	Minerals.....	9	Trade, foreign.....	24
Food, administration.....	15	Personnel.....	3,8,19	Transportation.....	26
Foreign affairs.....	4	Prices, support.....	1	Wildlife.....	18
Forests and forestry.....	7,16	Property, surplus.....	21	Wool.....	1

HIGHLIGHTS: House debated wool bill. 2nd deficiency bill sent to President. Senate passed bill extending SCS, ACP, FHA to Virgin Islands. Senate passed forest insects-disease bill. Rep. Murray and Sen. Johnson introduced bills prohibiting Government destruction of food.

Agricultural appropriation bill will probably be reported today. B&F will immediately advise agency budget offices of its provisions. They, in turn, will provide this information within the agencies. Copies will not be available for general distribution until probably Mon., when the distribution will be made through agency budget offices pursuant to a previously prepared list.

HOUSE

1. WOOL-PRICE SUPPORTS. Began debate on S. 814, the wool bill (pp. 5812-47).
2. SECOND DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATION BILL. Both Houses agreed to the conference report on this bill, H. R. 3245 (pp. 5810-12, 5789-90). Both Houses agreed to an amendment to the farm-labor item which not only reduced the total amount to \$5,000,000, exclusive of funds already available, but reduced the portion of this sum which must be apportioned among the States to \$2,000,000, the amount which may be used for administrative expenses to \$250,000, and the sum for liquidation to \$253,500. The House concurred in the Senate amendment regarding CCC notes. This bill will now be sent to the President.
3. PERSONNEL. The Ways and Means Committee reported without amendment H. R. 3101, to extend until June 30, 1949, the period during which persons may serve in certain executive departments and agencies without being prohibited from acting as counsel, agent, or attorney for prosecuting claims against the U. S. by reason of having so served (H. Rept. 424)(p. 5843).
4. DAIRY INDUSTRY. Rep. Gillie, Ind., recommended shipment of non-fat milk powder for foreign relief, stating that this would be a simple way to stabilize dairy prices (p. 5808).

SENATE

5. SOIL CONSERVATION. Passed as reported S. 512, to extend the SCS, ACP, and FHA programs to the Virgin Islands (p. 5799).
6. RECLAMATION. Passed over at the request of Sen. Ellender, La., S. 299, to extend the reclamation laws to Ark. (p. 5801).



7. FOREST INSECTS & DISEASES. Passed as reported S. 597, to provide for the protection of forests from diseases and insects (pp. 5799, 5803-6).
8. PERSONNEL. Passed without amendment S. 1073, to extend until June 30, 1949, the time during which persons may serve in certain executive agencies without being prohibited from acting as counsel, etc., for prosecuting claims against the U.S. (p. 5799).
9. MINERALS. Passed over S. 1081, to promote the mining of coal, phosphate, sodium, potassium, oil, oil shale, gas, and sulfur on U.S. lands (p. 5799).
10. GRANT LANDS. Passed without amendment H.R. 603, to allow credit for certain homestead entries for military or naval service rendered during World War II (p. 5802). This bill will now be sent to the President.
11. TAXATION. Continued debate on H.R. 1, the individual income tax-reduction bill (pp. 5781-9, 5797-8). During the debate Sen. Byrd, Va., urged completion of appropriation bills before consideration of H.R. 1 and discussed with other members appropriation bills yet to be considered (pp. 5781-6).
12. HEALTH. Sen. Chavez, N.Mex., urged favorable consideration of the national health bills (p. 5780).
13. EDUCATION. Sen. Aiken, Vt., discussed the school situation and favored Federal aid to education (pp. 5792-4).
14. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION. Sen. Smith, N.J., withdrawn motion to reconsider the vote on S. 526, to create a National Science Foundation (p. 5799).

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

15. FOOD DESTRUCTION. S. 1329, by Sen. Johnson, Colo., to prohibit the destruction of food by Government agencies. To Judiciary Committee. (p. 5780.) In the discussion of this bill Sen. Johnson advocated that surplus potatoes be shipped to tax-supported institutions; Sen. Maybank, S.C., pointed out the difficulties of shipping them, since there are not enough cars available; and Sen. Hatch, N.Mex., defended Secretary Anderson's position, stating that "the potato problem has been a source of constant headache to the Department of Agriculture for a long time" (pp. 5790-2).  
H.R. 3585, by Rep. Murray, Wis., to prohibit the Department of Agriculture and its officers, employees, and agents from destroying food which is fit for human consumption. To Agriculture Committee. (p. 5849.)
16. NATIONAL FORESTS. S. J. Res. 118, by Sen. Butler, Nebr. (by request), to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell timber within the Tongass National Forest. To Public Lands Committee. (p. 5780.)
17. HEALTH. H.R. 3579, by Rep. Celler, N.Y., to provide a national health insurance and public health program. To Ways and Means Committee. (p. 5849.)
18. WILDLIFE. H.R. 3578, by Rep. Bates, Mass. (by request), to reduce in area the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Essex County, Mass. To Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. (p. 5849.)
19. PERSONNEL. H.R. 3588, by Rep. Rees, Kans., providing for a Federal Employees' Loyalty Act. To Post Office and Civil Service Committee. (p. 5849.)



period March 1, 1945, to July 31, 1945; recovery of such sum by the said Robert C. Birkes having been prevented by the fact that he was ordered by the Navy to make a change of station soon after the overcharge was determined by the Office of Price Administration: *Provided*, That no part of the amount appropriated in this act in excess of 10 percent thereof shall be paid or delivered to or received by any agent or attorney on account of services rendered in connection with this claim, and the same shall be unlawful, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding \$1,000.

#### WHITE HOUSE POLICE FORCE

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1022) to authorize an adequate White House Police force, which had been reported from the Committee on Public Works, with an amendment on page 2, line 3, after the words "as may be necessary", to insert "but not exceeding 110 in number", so as to make the bill read:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That subsection (a) of section 2 of the act entitled "An act to create the White House Police force, and for other purposes," approved September 14, 1922 (42 Stat. 841, as amended; U. S. C., 1940 ed., title 3, sec. 62), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. (a) The White House Police force shall consist of such number of officers, with grades corresponding to similar officers of the Metropolitan Police force, and of such number of privates, with grade corresponding to that of private of the highest grade in the Metropolitan Police force, as may be necessary, but not exceeding 110 in number. Members of the White House Police shall be appointed from the members of the Metropolitan Police force and the United States Park Police force from lists furnished by the officers in charge of such forces. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

#### EXTENSION OF PROVISIONS OF AGRICULTURAL ACTS TO THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 512) to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation Act to the Virgin Islands, which had been reported from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, with amendments, on page 1, line 9, after the word "area", to strike out the word "to"; on page 1, line 9, after the word "finance", insert a comma; on page 1, line 9, after the word "State", insert a comma; and on page 2, line 23, before the name "Puerto Rico", to strike out "possessions" and insert "possession", so as to make the bill read:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That the following sections of title IV of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, except insofar as they affect title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, are hereby amended as follows:

(a) Subsection (b) of section 41 is amended to read: "The Secretary may administer his power and duties under this act through such area finance, State, and local offices in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as he determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional

offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area composed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) if he determines that the volume of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate State offices."

(b) Section 54 is amended to read: "The provisions of this act shall extend to the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the case of Alaska and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the term 'county' as used in this act shall be deemed synonymous with 'Territory', or any subdivision thereof as may be designated by the Secretary, and payments under section 33 of this act shall be made to the governor of the Territory or to the fiscal agent of such subdivision."

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151), is amended to read as follows: "This act shall apply to the United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and the possession of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and, as used in this act, the term 'State' includes Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands."

SEC. 3. All acts or parts of acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Mr. TAFT. Mr. President, may we have an explanation of this bill?

Mr. ELLENDER. The only purpose of the bill is to include the Virgin Islands in the agricultural relief acts. I am sorry the Virgin Islands were omitted from the laws when they were enacted some time ago. That is the sole and only purpose.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the amendments reported by the committee.

The amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

#### BILLS PASSED OVER

The bill (S. 597) to provide for the protection of forests against destructive insects and diseases was announced as next in order.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, may we have an explanation of the bill?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois asks for an explanation. There seems to be no explanation forthcoming. Is there objection to the passage of the bill?

Mr. LUCAS. Over.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

The bill (S. 1081) to promote the mining of coal, phosphate, sodium, potassium, oil, oil shale, gas, and sulfur on lands acquired by the United States, was announced as next in order.

Mr. LUCAS. Over.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

The bill (S. 1154) to amend the Veterans' Emergency Housing Act of 1946 was announced as next in order.

Mr. LUCAS. Over.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AS COUNSEL IN PROSECUTING CLAIMS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 1073) to extend until June 30, 1949, the period of time during which persons may serve in certain executive

departments and agencies without being prohibited from acting as counsel, agent, or attorney for prosecuting claims against the United States by reason of having so served, which was read, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.*, That subsection (j) of the Renegotiation Act (50 U. S. C., Supp. V, App., sec. 1191 (j)) is amended to read as follows:

"(j) Nothing in sections 109 and 113 of the Criminal Code (U. S. C., title 18, secs. 193 and 203) or in section 190 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., title 5, sec. 99) shall be deemed to prevent any person by reason of service in a department or the Board during the period (or a part thereof) beginning May 27, 1940, and ending on June 30, 1949, from acting as counsel, agent, or attorney for prosecuting any claim against the United States: *Provided*, That such person shall not prosecute any claim against the United States (1) involving any subject matter directly connected with which such person was so employed, or (2) during the period such person is engaged in employment in a department."

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. President, may we have an explanation of the bill?

Mr. MILLIKIN. Mr. President, we have a group of professional men who are on the excess-profits tax counsel of the Bureau of Internal Revenue and who work with the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, helping to expedite excess profits refund problems. They are doing a fine job. They are men who cannot give up their private professional lives. They may have business with the Federal Government. There was a time limitation which exempted them from the operation of the usual Federal rule that a person cannot be a Federal employee and at the same time bring an action against the Government.

The purpose of the bill is to carry forward the exemption for another period, and at the same time, not permit the person affected to sue the Government in matters on which he was employed by the Government.

Mr. FERGUSON. Does the bill apply only to the particular group to whom the Senator refers?

Mr. MILLIKIN. They are the ones we had in mind. It may go somewhat beyond that but subject to the same limitations.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

#### FEDERAL COURT BUILDING FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 450) to provide for the acquisition of a site and for the construction, equipment, and furnishing of a building thereon for the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia, which had been reported from the Committee on Public Works with amendments.

Mr. MAGNUSON. Mr. President, I should like to ask my colleague a question about the committee's approval of the bill, merely to elicit certain information. As the Senator from Washington



knows, there is a crying need throughout the United States for public buildings. I do not know that the need is so great in certain places as it is in others. In my State we are getting along satisfactorily, but Federal buildings for post offices, courts, and other uses, are really needed. In our State we have had an over-all policy, which is probably a wise one, of not embarking on public works at this time, owing to the employment situation. It is thought that public works might well be postponed. I know that in one or two places in the State of Washington, and even in my home town, there is a crying need for public buildings, which should probably receive priority when the public works program is begun. I refer particularly to the need for a post office. I was wondering why an exception was made of the District of Columbia from the general rule applying to the remainder of the country.

Mr. CAIN. I would say to my colleague the senior Senator from Washington that I think we are making no exception in this case. The bill authorizes the appropriation of \$400,000 for the drawing of plans and specifications against the day when the Federal building in question can be constructed, but there is no intention through this bill to begin construction at any time in the immediate future, and the Congress itself will determine the date of construction in the future.

Mr. MAGNUSON. I thank my colleague.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair asks the Senator from Washington whether the Senate bill is not identical with House bill 3029, Calendar No. 192.

Mr. CAIN. Yes. It was our intention, Mr. President, to have the House bill substituted for Senate bill 450.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, House bill 3029, Calendar No. 192, will be substituted for Senate bill 450, Calendar No. 165, and will be now considered.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill (H. R. 3029) to provide for the acquisition of a site and for preparation of plans and specifications for a courthouse to accommodate the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia, which had been reported from the Committee on Public Works with amendments on page 3, line 9, after the words "this", to strike out "title" and insert "act"; and on page 4, line 1, after the word "this", to strike out "title" and insert "act."

The amendments were agreed to.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time and passed.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, Senate bill 450 will be indefinitely postponed.

#### BILL PASSED OVER

The bill (S. 28) to supersede the provisions of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1946, by reestablishing the offices of reg-

isters of land offices, and providing for appointment of the Director and Associate Director of the Bureau of Land Management, and for other purposes, was announced as next in order.

Mr. LUCAS. Over.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill will be passed over.

#### AMENDMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE REHABILITATION ACT

The bill (S. 1020) to amend the Philippine Rehabilitation Act of 1946, as amended, was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That section 101 (b) of the Philippine Rehabilitation Act of 1946, as amended, is amended by inserting after the word "employees," the following: "who shall be entitled to accumulate annual leave to the maximum of 90 workdays exclusive of the time actually and necessarily occupied in going to and from the continental United States and such time as may be necessarily occupied in awaiting sailing or flight."

SEC. 2. Subsection (c) of section 101 of such act, as amended, is amended by inserting after the words "Commonwealth of the Philippines" the following: "(or the Republic of the Philippines)".

SEC. 3. Subsection (a) of section 106 of such act, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 106. (a) There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the amount of \$400,000,000 for the purpose of paying compensation to the extent authorized by this title, and of such sum, not to exceed \$16,000,000 shall be available to pay the expenses of the Commission. All moneys heretofore or hereinafter appropriated under authority of this title shall remain available until April 30, 1951."

Mr. REVERCOMB subsequently said: Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to recur to Senate bill 1020, Calendar No. 167.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bill in question was passed.

Mr. REVERCOMB. I ask unanimous consent for the reconsideration of the vote by which the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, and passed.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from West Virginia? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

The bill will be stated by title for the information of the Senate.

The CHIEF CLERK. A bill (S. 1020) to amend the Philippine Rehabilitation Act of 1946, as amended.

Mr. REVERCOMB. Mr. President, may we have an explanation of the bill?

Mr. BUTLER. Mr. President, I think the report made by the committee gives all the information I could give. As the distinguished Senator from West Virginia realizes, there was previously appropriated a total sum of \$400,000,000, as I recall, to cover war damage in the Philippines. At the time it was passed a provision was made that only 1 percent could be expended for administration.

It has been found necessary to expend for administration considerably more than 1 percent in the settlement of damage claims. As was brought out in the hearings, the expenses incidental to the

settlement of an ordinary damage claim are usually between 6 and 8 percent of the amount involved. In this case, the administration proposes to increase the amount allowed for administrative expense to 4 percent as an over-all figure for the total amount of claims. The distinguished Senator from West Virginia is an attorney. Perhaps he has not settled claims of this kind, but undoubtedly he has had to do with the settlement of claims of some sort. I believe he will admit that an administrative cost of 4 percent is a reasonable charge for settlement.

Mr. REVERCOMB. The Senator from West Virginia has not settled any claims in the Philippine Islands. I wanted the record to show that a limit had been placed on the amount that might be used for administrative expenses.

Mr. BUTLER. That is correct. The amount allowed under the original act was 1 percent. It is now proposed to increase it to 4 percent.

Mr. REVERCOMB. I believe the amount involved is \$16,000,000.

Mr. BUTLER. That is correct.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

#### UTILIZATION OF SURPLUS WAR DEPARTMENT OWNED REAL PROPERTY AS NATIONAL CEMETERIES

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 272) to provide for the utilization of surplus War Department owned military real property as national cemeteries, when feasible, which had been reported from the Committee on Public Lands with an amendment, on page 2, line 7, after "cemeteries," to insert "No national cemetery established pursuant to this act shall have an area in excess of 640 acres."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That when the Secretary of War determines that there is need for an additional cemetery or cemeteries for the burial of members of the armed forces of the United States dying in the service or former members whose last discharge therefrom was honorable and certain other persons as provided for by existing law (24 U. S. C. 281), he is authorized to utilize, when practicable, federally owned lands under the jurisdiction of the War Department for military purposes and not needed for such purposes for the establishment thereon of a national cemetery or cemeteries.

SEC. 2. Upon the selection by the Secretary of War of such land, as provided in section 1 hereof, the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to establish thereon national cemeteries and to provide for the care and maintenance of such cemeteries. No national cemetery established pursuant to this act shall have an area in excess of 640 acres.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of War is authorized to prescribe such regulations as he may deem necessary for the administration of this act.

SEC. 4. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this act.







80TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 512

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 1947

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## AN ACT

To extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the following sections of title IV of the Bankhead-  
4       Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, except insofar as they  
5       affect title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act,  
6       as amended, are hereby amended as follows:

7       (a) Subsection (b) of section 41 is amended to read:  
8       “The Secretary may administer his power and duties under  
9       this Act through such area finance, State, and local offices  
10      in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and



1 Hawaii and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as he  
2 determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional  
3 offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The  
4 Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area com-  
5 posed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico  
6 and the Virgin Islands) if he determines that the volume  
7 of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate  
8 State offices.”

9 (b) Section 54 is amended to read: “The provisions  
10 of this Act shall extend to the Territories of Alaska and  
11 Hawaii and to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the  
12 case of Alaska and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the  
13 term ‘county’ as used in this Act shall be deemed synonymous  
14 with ‘Territory’, or any subdivision thereof as may be desig-  
15 nated by the Secretary, and payments under section 33 of  
16 this Act shall be made to the Governor of the Territory or  
17 to the fiscal agent of such subdivision.”

18 SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Con-  
19 servation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151), is  
20 amended to read as follows: “This Act shall apply to the  
21 United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and  
22 the possession of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and,  
23 as used in this Act, the term ‘State’ includes Alaska, Hawaii,  
24 Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.”

1        SEC. 3. All Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith  
2 are hereby repealed.

Passed the Senate May 22 (legislative day, April 21),  
1947.

Attest:

CARL A. LOEFFLER,

*Secretary.*

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## AN ACT

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To extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands.

---

MAY 23, 1947

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture







**EXTEND PROVISIONS OF BANKHEAD-JONES AND  
SOIL CONSERVATION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT  
ACTS TO THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

---

**HEARINGS**

**BEFORE**

**SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 2 OF  
THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**EIGHTIETH CONGRESS**

**FIRST SESSION**

**ON**

**S. 512**

**TO EXTEND PROVISIONS OF THE BANKHEAD-JONES  
FARM TENANT ACT AND THE SOIL CONSERVA-  
TION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACT  
TO THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

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**JUNE 24, 1947**

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Printed for the use of the Committee on Agriculture



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**SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 2 OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

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**HAROLD D. COOLEY, North Carolina**

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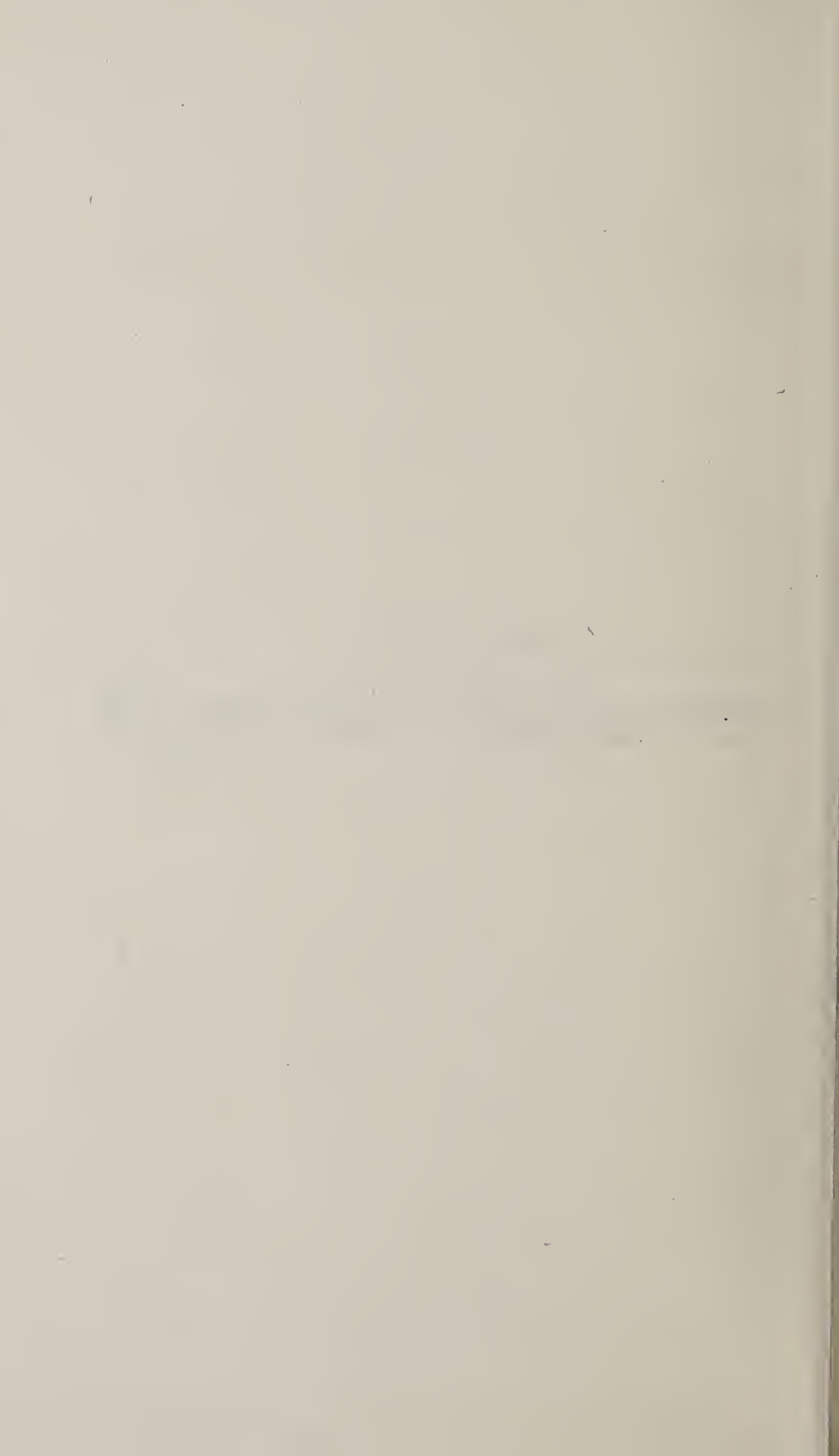
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## CONTENTS

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Statement of—	Page
Barr, Mason, Chief, Caribbean Branch, Department of Interior-----	5
Minor, W. A., Assistant to Secretary of Agriculture-----	2





# EXTEND PROVISIONS OF BANKHEAD-JONES AND SOIL CONSERVATION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACTS TO THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 1947

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
Washington, D. C.

The subcommittee met at 10 a. m., Hon. Anton J. Johnson, chairman, presiding.

Present: Representatives Johnson, Cooley, and Goff.

Also present: John J. Heimburger, counsel to the subcommittee.

Mr. JOHNSON. The committee will come to order. We are meeting this morning to consider S. 512, which is a bill to extend the provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands.

(S. 512 is as follows:)

[S. 512, 80th Cong., 1st sess]

AN ACT To extent provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the following sections of title IV of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, except insofar as they affect title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, are hereby amended as follows:

(a) Subsection (b) of section 41 is amended to read: "The Secretary may administer his power and duties under this Act through such area finance, State, and local offices in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as he determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area composed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) if he determines that the volume of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate State offices."

(b) Section 54 is amended to read: "The provisions of this Act shall extend to the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the case of Alaska and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the term 'county' as used in this Act shall be deemed synonymous with 'Territory', or any subdivision thereof as may be designated by the Secretary, and payments under section 33 of this Act shall be made to the Governor of the Territory or to the fiscal agent of such subdivision."

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151), is amended to read as follows: "This Act shall apply to the United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and the possession of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and, as used in this Act, the term 'State' includes Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands."

SEC. 3. All Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Passed the Senate May 22 (legislative day, April 21), 1947.

Attest:

CARL A. LOEFFLER, *Secretary*.

Mr. JOHNSON. We will first call on Mr. Minor.

**STATEMENT OF W. A. MINOR, ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY  
OF AGRICULTURE**

Mr. JOHNSON. We would like to know, Mr. Minor, if you favor this bill.

Mr. MINOR. Mr. Chairman, the Department favors the bill S. 512 which, first, extends the services of the Farmers' Home Administration to the Virgin Islands; that is, the production and subsistence loans, the tenant purchase loans, and mortgage insurance features which are available on the mainland and in Alaska, Puerto Rico, and Hawaii; and, second, it extends the agricultural conservation program benefits to the islands. Presently the sugar program is effective in the Virgin Islands, but not the agricultural conservation program. Third, it authorizes the Soil Conservation Service to operate with soil conservation districts in the islands.

There are two districts that have already been formed in the islands and they are asking for assistance which the Service has not been able to provide up to the present time. It may be argued that the Soil Conservation Service does have authorization to go in there, but it is a cloudy issue, made so by amendments to the act which were not intended to affect that, but apparently do have the effect of making it very questionable at least.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. Minor, pardon me at this point.

Mr. MINOR. Yes.

Mr. JOHNSON. The Virgin Islands have not heretofore been included. Was that an oversight, or was it for some purpose?

Mr. MINOR. With respect to the Farmers Home Administration I cannot answer the question, but I can point out that the Farm Security Administration was authorized and did make loans in the islands. We are unable to find any history, in the preparation of the Farmers Home Administration Act, that would indicate that it was taken out by design. It was omitted. Whether it was an oversight or otherwise I don't know, but if there was any question we are not aware of it.

As far as the agricultural conservation program is concerned, it has never been effective in the islands, and apparently at the time that was drawn the question was not raised. I feel satisfied had it been raised that the islands would have been included, but, as far as I know, that question was not raised. The omission of the Soil Conservation Service, as I have indicated, was an inadvertence, no doubt, which came about by the amendments when the agricultural conservation program was adopted.

These soil conservation districts have been formed. There is one on the island of St. Croix, another one on St. John, and another one on St. Thomas.

I might mention again that Alaska and Puerto Rico, possessions of the United States, were included under each of these acts, and the Virgin Islands, being a part of the United States, we feel that it is appropriate that they be included.

Just a little bit about the islands. There are about 50 of varying sizes, but only three that are considered as agricultural areas: St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John. The people in the islands are dependent

on agriculture, directly or indirectly. There is a harbor there and some distribution of things that they bring in, and a place where sugar, livestock, and things that they sell are taken out that adds to their income, but they are primarily dependent on agriculture. The area is about 85,000 acres, of which about 55,000 is in farms, with a little over 13,000 acres of cropland and about 30,000 acres of pasture, about half of which is clear. There are, according to the last available census, about 828 farms. Four hundred and ninety-six of these are full owners, people that own and operate their own farms, and 42 of the units are part owners.

Mr. JOHNSON. Does that include all the islands?

Mr. MINOR. Those are the three main islands where the agricultural area is. Fifty-eight are operated by managers, where somebody else owns them, and 232 tenant-operated units. About 85 percent of the farms are below 100 acres. Take on St. Croix, there are only six farms on that island that are over 500 acres. The sugar operations are usually found on the small farms. The medium-sized farms are more diversified and have more fruits and vegetables, and the larger farms are predominantly livestock, with extensive operations. The population is 24,889.

The need for conservation in the islands is apparent. They need to carefully utilize the water that they have available, and the where-withal to do the things that they need to do is probably less there than in most any other part of the country. So that while the number of people is not large, the good that can be done for those individuals is probably proportionately large. Progress would probably not be as rapid, either in conservation or on the credit side, helping to rehabilitate them through farmers' home loans, as might be in other cases, but it is simply the result of the very great need that exists for them.

The legislative assembly of the islands has requested the enactment of legislation such as this, and we have taken their desires into consideration. The Department does favor the bill and recommends its passage.

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Minor, may I ask you a question there?

Mr. MINOR. Yes, sir.

Mr. COOLEY. On page 2, line 15, reference is made to certain payments to be made under section 33 of the act, and directs that those payments be made to the Governor of the Territory or the fiscal agent of such subdivision. I do not have the act before me, but what payments does this bill refer to?

Mr. HEIMBURGER. I will read that section of the act:

As soon as practicable after the end of each calendar year, the Secretary shall pay to the county in which any land is held by the Secretary under sections 1010, to 1013 of this title, 25 per centum of the net revenues received by the Secretary from the use of the land during each year.

Mr. MINOR. This has nothing to do really with the credit facilities of Farmers Home Administration, this is the submarginal land operations, just as we have in this country. Where any land is held under the submarginal land provisions of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, in lieu of any payments that would otherwise be made to the county, this is the percentage of the income from those lands and is paid to local governing agencies such as the Governor of the islands.

Mr. COOLEY. That is the payment in lieu of taxes?



Mr. MINOR. That is right.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. This language in the bill does not change the language in the existing section, except it adds the Virgin Islands.

Mr. COOLEY. This specifically directs that payments shall be made to the Governor.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. That is already in here, "the Governor of the Territory, or the fiscal agent."

Mr. COOLEY. Then the only change in that section is to add the Virgin Islands.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. That is correct.

Mr. JOHNSON. Do you have seasonal rainfalls down there? I am thinking in terms of soil conservation. What is the annual rainfall?

Mr. MINOR. Around 47 inches is the average annual rainfall. It does mean that water for domestic use, livestock, and crops is scarce, and they have more difficulty with drought than otherwise.

Mr. JOHNSON. Is there an abundance of well water?

Mr. MINOR. I am unable to state. Probably Mr. Barr can tell you that.

Mr. BARR. The rainfall is around 45 or 50 inches, but it is very spotty. There are no running streams on the islands. The well water is apt to be very brackish. The water table has dropped considerably in the last few years. Soil Conservation in the past few years assisted in putting in some earth stock dams there which seem to do some considerable good. There are a few in an experimental project. It is that type of thing that is badly needed down there, especially on the upper parts of the island.

Mr. JOHNSON. Thank you, Mr. Minor.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. There is a question I would like to ask, with your permission.

Mr. JOHNSON. Sure.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. The first section of this bill does change the wording considerably of the relevant section of the act. I would like for Mr. Minor to explain that. Subsection (a) of the first section of the bill says:

The Secretary may administer his power and duties under this Act through such area finance, State, and local offices in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska—

and so on.

As I understand it, that replaces and completely changes the wording of subsection (b) of what is section 1015 of the Code here, which reads this way:

accept and utilize voluntary and uncompensated service, and, with the consent of the agency concerned, utilize the officers, employees, equipment, and information of any agency of the Federal Government, or of any State, Territory, or political subdivision.

If that section is replaced by this section, there is quite a difference in that wording there.

Mr. MINOR. I am not familiar with it, to be sure, but I wonder if that is not the provision before the enactment of Public Law 731 in the Seventy-ninth Congress which amended that provision?

Mr. HEIMBURGER. It probably is. I asked our counsel about it this morning and he did not think that had been amended.

Mr. MINOR. Here is the provision of that section in Public Law 731, the Farmers Home Administration Act:



The Secretary may administer his powers and duties under this Act through such area finance, State, and local offices in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and in Puerto Rico as he determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area composed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico) if he determines that the volume of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate State offices.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. The existing law has been changed only by adding the Virgin Islands in this case, too?

Mr. MINOR. Yes.

Mr. HEIMBURGER. That clears it up for me.

Mr. MINOR. I might say that the total funds which would be required out of the funds made available for these acts for the Virgin Islands would not be large. The relationship to the program as a whole would never be felt, but those individuals on the islands would know it and would be helped very materially, we believe.

Mr. JOHNSON. Are there any further questions? If not, we thank you, Mr. Minor.

We will hear from you, Mr. Barr—unless there is someone from your own group who has something to add first.

Mr. MINOR. I believe not.

#### STATEMENT OF MASON BARR, CHIEF OF THE CARIBBEAN BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. BARR. I know you are anxious to get away. I have a letter from the Secretary of the Interior addressed to Mr. Hope, strongly supporting this bill.

Mr. JOHNSON. You may put it in the record.

(The letter referred to is as follows:)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, June 24, 1947.

HON. CLIFFORD R. HOPE,  
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,  
House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. HOPE: It is my understanding that there is pending before your committee S. 512, an act to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands. This measure passed the Senate on May 22. In my opinion, enactment of this measure is of fundamental importance to agriculture in the Virgin Islands, and I wish, therefore, to urge its early and favorable consideration by your committee.

Section 1 of the measure proposes the inclusion of the Virgin Islands in the agricultural lending program provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

The Congress in its last session enacted the Farmers' Home Administration Act which coordinates and consolidates the numerous agricultural lending activities of the Federal Government. Incidental to this action, the functions of the Farm Security Administration were abolished and by amendments simultaneously made to the Bankhead-Jones Act provision was made for the undertaking of similar functions under that act. Although the Farm Security Administration had previously carried on operations in the Virgin Islands, these islands were entirely omitted from the scope of the new agricultural lending program. There is no apparent reason why the Virgin Islands should be denied further participation in a type of activity that is so well adapted to and the success of which has been so amply demonstrated in that area.

Perhaps the greatest single economic need of the Virgin Islands is for the development of a basic agricultural economy, strong and broad enough to make those islands eventually self-sustaining. In the island of St. Croix, the agricultural center of the group, the economic welfare of practically its entire population is tied up in one way or another with the condition of agriculture. Un-

fortunately a one-crop system (sugarcane) has been in effect in the islands for a great number of years. Periodic droughts, higher freight rates to the mainland and other related factors have put the Virgin Islands sugar industry at a competitive disadvantage with that in other areas. The result has been that the main agricultural pursuit of the islands is unprofitable while no others have as yet been sufficiently developed to meet adequately even only local consumption requirements. No solution to the problems of the islands can be effective and lasting which ignores this fundamental situation.

For many years efforts have been made to diversify agriculture in the islands. A Virgin Islands small farm-homestead project, inaugurated shortly after the Department of the Interior assumed jurisdiction of the islands, met with some success and led eventually to requests by this Department for extension of Farm Security activities to the islands. The homestead project was transferred to that agency and in 1942 it commenced operations in the islands directed toward the encouragement of small, family-type, diversified farms. To anyone familiar with the Virgin Islands, it has been apparent that the Farm Security work has been successful and that it promised even greater results.

The assistance formerly rendered by the Farm Security Administration in loans and in technical guidance is essential to the further development in diversified agriculture.

Under the Bankhead-Jones Act numerous activities carried on under the Farm Security Administration will be continued in the States and the other Territorial areas. The Virgin Islands particularly need to be included in this national program. Because past experience has shown their successful application to the islands, Farm Security activities carried over to the Bankhead-Jones Act should be extended to them.

Section 2 of the proposed legislation would redefine the word "State" in the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to include the Virgin Islands and thus authorize the Department of Agriculture to carry on work in soil and moisture conservation in that possession.

It is impossible to stress too strongly the importance of such work to the Virgin Islands. Studies in the area have consistently indicated that soil and water conservation and the intelligent use of water resources are essential to any effective program for stabilizing the economy and broadening opportunities for employment. The islands have been severely handicapped by too little precipitation, poorly distributed for productive cultivation, by excessive run-off of water, soil erosion, and the lowering of the water table, the latter particularly true in St. Croix, the main agricultural island in the group. Unless this process is arrested and reversed, a large part of St. Croix is apt to become uninhabitable and might, in the foreseeable future, have to be abandoned. Throughout the islands the problem is complicated by the periodic recurrence of severe and long-lasting droughts, soil depletion and improper use of land which has resulted in the reduction of the quantity and quality of crops, milk, livestock, and poultry and has affected the health and wealth of the people.

If the Virgin Islands are to be made self-sufficient, one of the most important things we will have to do is to develop a basic and self-sustaining agricultural economy. Extension of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the islands is an indispensable preliminary to the effective treatment of the problem.

The Department of Agriculture had already begun this essential work in the Virgin Islands when an administrative decision indicated that authority to proceed was doubtful without amendment to the act. Work was promptly suspended. It can be resumed only if such an amendment as is now proposed is enacted.

The Department of Agriculture has expressed its approval of S. 512. For a statement of that Department's views on the proposal, I refer you to Senate Report No. 158 of this Congress, wherein is set forth Agriculture's report to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, relative to S. 512. I concur in the recommendation of the Department of Agriculture that S. 512 be enacted.

Sincerely yours,

J. A. KRUG, *Secretary of the Interior.*

Mr. Goff. That letter strongly supports the bill?

Mr. BARR. Yes. We have urged the support of this. It is a small item, but I think it is awfully important to those people down there.

The economy of the Virgin Islands is very shaky, particularly on the island of St. Croix, which is predominantly agriculture. Their income is probably the lowest of any place under our flag. There is this problem of rain and retaining the moisture. They are small farms and they need all the assistance that can be given to them to try and stabilize that economy.

Mr. JOHNSON. May I ask, Mr. Barr, does the land lend itself to strip farming, and so forth? Is it a gradual slope?

Mr. BARR. Some of the slopes are quite steep. There is a flat plain on the island where the sugar is raised primarily. In the rougher parts it is mostly grazing, although at one time, many, many years ago, they raised sugar right at the top of the hill, and when that land was under cultivation it appeared to hold the rainfall as it did fall and the water table was higher. As that land went into grazing the run-off was very heavy, and the evaporation under the hot sun also contributed to it. There is 78 inches of evaporation and only 48 inches of rainfall, so you have to catch the water as it falls down and keep it there.

Mr. JOHNSON. There are no running streams?

Mr. BARR. There are no running streams in any of the islands.

Mr. JOHNSON. They certainly need some soil conservation help.

Mr. BARR. Yes.

Mr. JOHNSON. Technical assistance, and so forth.

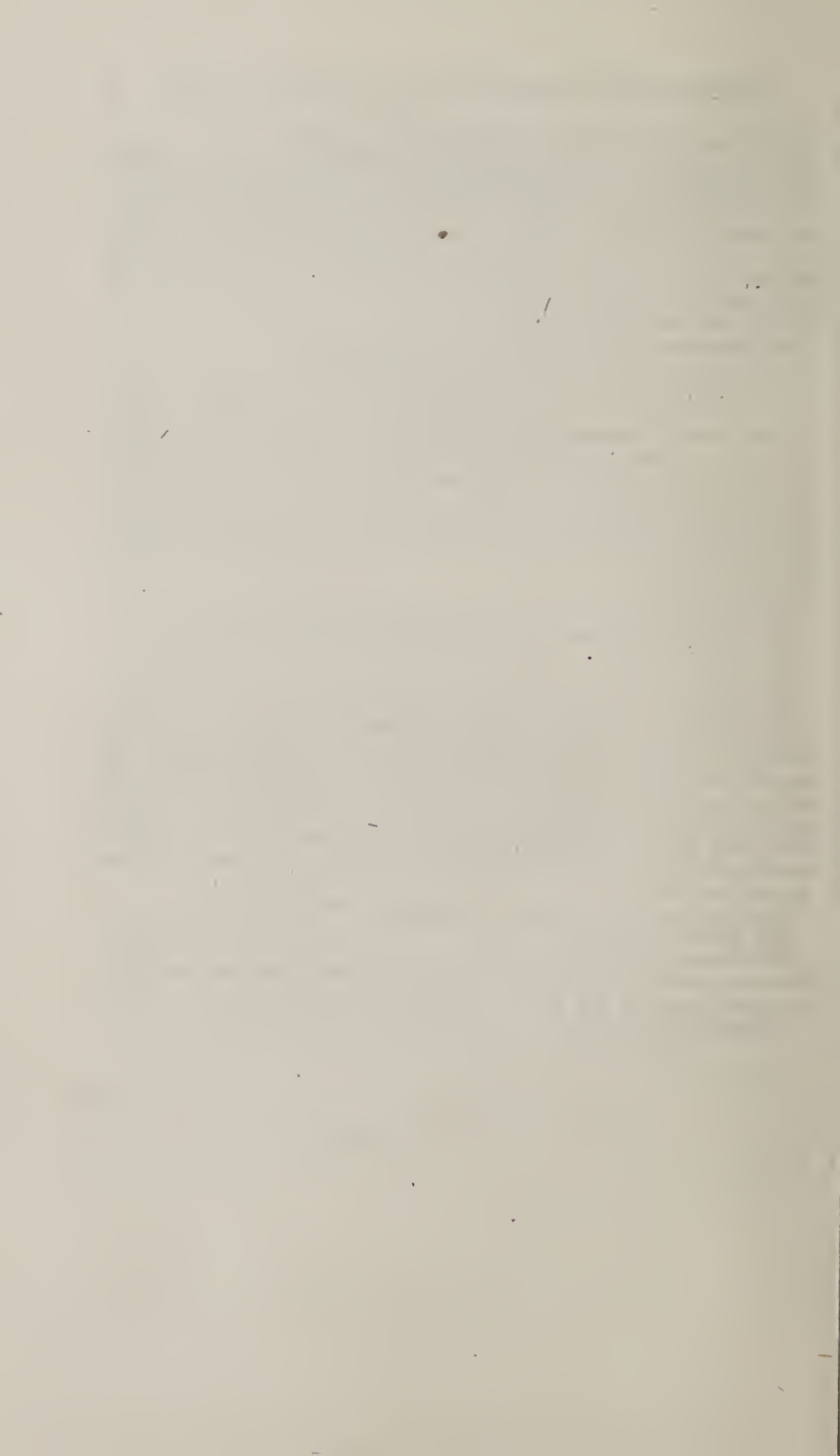
Mr. BARR. Yes. There is some interesting work by Mr. Ward Canaday. He is the chairman of the board of Willys Overland and has become interested in the Virgin Islands. He owns about 4,500 acres down there on his own. He has done considerable terracing work on some of the property he has got. It is on a large enough scale, so I think it will be more than a demonstration. He is very much interested in seeing this extended so that other people can avail themselves of this.

Mr. JOHNSON. Do you have anything further, Mr. Barr?

Mr. BARR. That is all.

Mr. JOHNSON. We thank you very kindly, and all of you gentlemen for your trouble in coming up here. You have given us first-hand information and it will be very helpful to the committee.

(Whereupon, at 10:30 a. m., the committee adjourned.)





OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
Division of Legislative Reports

(For administrative information only)

HEARINGS BEFORE HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE ON S. 512, TO EXTEND SCS, ACP, AND FHA PROGRAMS TO VIRGIN ISLANDS, JUNE 24, 1947

subcommittee of the House Committee on Agriculture, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Anton C. Johnson, requested representatives of this Department and the Department of Interior to testify regarding S. 512, which would extend the services of the Farmers' Home Administration, the Soil Conservation Service and the Agricultural Conservation Program to the Virgin Islands. The Department had submitted proposed legislation to the last Congress proposing this action with regard to the Soil Conservation Service and the Agricultural Conservation Program. The provisions of the Farmers' Home Administration Act made it desirable for FHA also to be included.

testified in support of the bill and gave some figures indicating the extent of agricultural operations on the Islands and the need for work of these agencies. The principal questions had to do with technical provisions of the bill as they relate to the acts which could be amended by it.

representative of the Department of Interior also testified in support of the bill.

W. A. Minor\*

Assistant to the Secretary

In cooperation with the Division of Legislative Reports.









13. FLOOD CONTROL; SURPLUS PROPERTY. The Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee reported with amendment S. 1515, to make surplus property available for the alleviation of damage caused by flood or other catastrophe. (S.Rept. 435) (p. 8400).
14. FEDERAL AID TO EDUCATION. The Labor and Public Welfare Committee reported with amendment S. 472, to authorize the appropriation of funds to assist the States and Territories in financing a minimum foundation education program of public elementary and secondary schools, and in reducing the inequalities of educational opportunities through public elementary and secondary schools, and for the general welfare (S.Rept. 425) (p. 8400).
15. AUDITING. Received the GAO audit report of the Defense Homes Corporation for the fiscal year 1946. To Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee. (p. 8398).
16. SUGAR. Received a Mich. Legislature resolution urging increased sugar allotments for home consumption and removal of all sugar controls (pp. 8398-9).
17. ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY. Received a Wis. Legislature resolution favoring this project (p. 8399).
18. ADJOURNED until Mon., July 7 (p. 8491).

#### HOUSE

19. SUGAR. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment H.R. 4075, the proposed Sugar Act of 1948 (H.Rept. 796) (p. 8372).  
The Daily Digest states that this bill will be considered on the floor Thurs., July 10 (p. D486).
20. LANDS. The Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee reported with amendments H.R. 3043, to transfer the Crab Orchard Creek Land Utilization project, Ill., to Interior Department for use as a wildlife management area (H.Rept. 790) (p. 8372).
21. STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATION BILL, 1948. Both Houses agreed to the conference report on this bill, H.R. 3311, and to the amendments in disagreement (pp. 8349-53, 8405-6). The amount for cooperation with Latin America was set at \$3,900,000 by the conferees (House figure, \$3,000,000; Senate figure, \$4,300,000). This bill will now be sent to the President.
22. SOIL CONSERVATION; FARM LOANS. The Agriculture Committee ordered\* reported S. 512, to extend the SCS, ACP, and FHA programs to the Virgin Islands (p. D484).
23. PLANT QUARANTINE. The Agriculture Committee ordered\* reported S. 338, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to limit the entry of nursery stock from foreign countries to that needed for propagation purposes in order to protect American interests from insects and plant diseases, and authorize the Secretary to require such stock to be grown in post-entry quarantine (p. D484).
24. NATIONAL FORESTS. The Agriculture Committee ordered\* reported H.R. 1809, to facilitate the use and occupancy of national-forest lands by authorizing the Secretary to grant long-term occupancy permits for summer homes, hotels, etc., for a wider variety of purposes, and by extending the acreage limitation from 5 to 80 acres (p. D484).

\* Copies of these bills and reports will not be available until the bills are actually reported, when this Digest will include statements to that effect.

OVER



25. RUBBER; ALCOHOL; FARM PRODUCTS. Rep. Curtis, Nebr., spoke in favor of continuing our plants for the manufacture of "farm-produced synthetic rubber," expanding markets for alcohol produced from farm products, and discussed four proposals for overcoming the price-disadvantage problem (pp. 8355-60).
26. WAR POWERS. The Judiciary Committee ordered\* reported with amendments S.J.Res. 123, to declare the termination of certain emergency and war powers (p. D485).
27. LANDS. The Public Lands subcommittee ordered\* reported to the full committee H.R. 1330, to abolish the Jackson Hole National Monument (p. D485).
- \* Copies of these bills and reports will not be available until the bills are actually reported, when this Digest will include statements to that effect.
28. GOVERNMENT PROPAGANDA. Rep. Miller, Conn., criticized propaganda in connection with three newspaper articles on public utilities, which he inserted and which he said made "plain implication...that ...the subcommittee had reached a conclusion even before hearing the testimony in opposition to the proposals" (pp. 8361-3).
29. TAXATION. The Ways and Means Committee reported without amendment H.R. 3950, the individual income tax-reduction bill which would become effective Jan. 1, 1948 (p. 8372).
30. RESEARCH; INFORMATION. Rep. Shafer, Mich., called attention to a Department press release on clothing stains that may come from scorched ironing-board covers, and stated "I would be very much interested to know how many people the United States Department of Agriculture has had to keep on its pay roll in order to discover this important fact and to convey it to the public" (p. 8370).
31. ADJOURNED until Mon., July 7 (p. 8372). The Daily Digest lists the following program for this week: Mon., consent calendar and consideration of bills under suspension of the rules; Tues., income-tax reduction bill; Wed., D.C. appropriation bill and Presidential succession bill; Thurs., H.R. 4075, proposed Sugar Act of 1948; and Fri. and Sat., employees' loyalty, National Science Foundation, repeal of emergency and war powers, and National Mineral Resources Division bill (p. D486).

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

32. WATER UTILIZATION. H.J.Res. 225, by Rep. Sheppard (Calif.), H.J.Res. 226, by Rep. Phillips (Calif.), and S.J.Res. 145, by Sen. McCarran (Nev.), for himself and others, to authorize commencement of an action by the U.S. to determine interstate water rights in the Colorado River. To House Judiciary Committee. Senate measure not referred to committee. (pp. 8400, 8373). Remarks of Sen. McCarran (pp. 8400-1).

#### ITEMS IN APPENDIX

33. PRICES; MEAT SHORTAGE. Speech in the House by Rep. Murray, Wis., analyzing the meat situation, giving reasons for shortages and high prices, and pointing out USDA's part in the responsibility for the present meat situation (pp. A3534-4).
34. APPROPRIATIONS. Speech in the House by Rep. McCormack, Mass., criticizing appropriation reductions which would cause a loss in revenue and failure of service to farmers, particularly soil conservation (p. A3516).
- Rep. Price, Ill., inserted a St. Louis Post-Dispatch editorial criticizing appropriation reductions (pp. A3531).



## Reports on Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on H. R. 3601, Agriculture Department appropriation bill, met to "mark up" the bill.

### GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on H. R. 3756, Government corporations appropriation, continued hearings with testimony from Agriculture Under Sec. N. E. Dodd, and Housing Expediter Frank Creedon.

### WAR DEPARTMENT

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on H. R. 3678, War Department appropriation bill, completed "marking up" the bill.

### ARMY AND NAVY BILLS

*Committee on Armed Services:* In executive session, committee approved S. 1502, to authorize contribution of conscientious objectors' earnings to the International Children's Emergency Fund; the following bills were considered but action held over: S. 759, to provide for detail of military and naval missions to foreign governments; S. 1112, to provide for transfer of Ft. Douglas, Utah; and H. R. 1366, to provide for Army-Navy procurement.

### ALCOHOLIC CLINIC

*Committee on the District of Columbia:* Subcommittee on S. 757, to establish an Alcoholic Clinic in D. C., heard the following witnesses: Clinton N. Howard, Int'l Reform Federation; Mrs. Geo. C. Thorpe, Washington Committee for Education on Alcoholism; and Dr. E. Y. Williams, Freedmen's Hospital.

### SURPLUS PROPERTY AND FSA

*Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments:* In executive session, reported S. 1515, to make surplus property available for alleviation of damage caused by flood or other catastrophe, with perfecting amendments, and S. 1512, to improve accounting within FSA to authorize intra-agency transfer and consolidation of appropriations by Administrator.

It was agreed that subcommittee on intergovernmental relations would be represented at the Conference of Governors to be held in Salt Lake City July 13-16 by Senators Bricker and O'Connor.

### FOREIGN INFORMATION AND EXCHANGE

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on H. R. 3342, U. S. Information and Educational Exchange Act, in executive session heard Asst. Sec. of State William Benton, and State Dept. Political Advisor Maynard B. Barnes. Subcommittee also released a statement from Army Chief of Staff Eisenhower favoring the program. Subcommittee meets again July 5.

### RAILROAD AND GAS BILLS—FCC NOMINATION

*Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce:* S. 249, railroad finance bill, was reported, with amendments, as was S. 1028, to amend the Natural Gas Act amendments on eminent domain.

Agreed to have subcommittee meet July 7 to hear opposition witnesses on appointment of Robt. F. Jones as FCC Commissioner.

### POSTMASTER RELIEF

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Senator Kilgore and Earl Stone, Post Office Dept., testified on S. 99, to provide relief for postmaster in Beckley, W. Va.

### HEALTH LEGISLATION

*Committee on Labor and Public Welfare:* Subcommittee, continuing hearings on S. 545, to create an independent national health agency, and S. 1320, National Health Insurance and Public Health Act of 1947, heard the following witnesses testify in support of S. 1320: Dr. Allan Mr. Butler, Arts, Sciences, and Professions, Progressive Citizens of America; Ernie Rymer, International Workers Order, N. Y.; Dr. Montague Cobb, National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, Washington; Leo J. Linder, National Lawyers Guild, N. Y.; and Clark Foreman, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Washington. Hearings continue next week.

### FISHERY RESOURCES

*Committee on Public Lands:* National Resources Economic Subcommittee, continuing its study of the fishery resources, heard Dr. Wm. E. S. Flory, International Resources Division, State Dept., discuss conservation, exploitation, and international trade aspects of fisheries; H. B. McCoy, Office of Domestic Commerce, Commerce Dept., review impacts of imports on this domestic industry, and export trade; and Charles R. Carry, National Cannery Assn., relate of the interests of his organization.

### PUBLIC LANDS

*Committee on Public Lands:* Subcommittee on Public Lands, in executive session, considered various calendar bills which will be reported to the full committee on Monday.

### CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT

*Committee on Public Lands:* The following witnesses testified in support of S. 1175, to construct and operate a dam at Bridge Canyon, central Arizona project: Judge Clifford A. Stone, Commissioner for Colorado on Upper Colorado River Basin Compact Commission; R. J. Tipton, Arizona State consultant engineer; and R. Gail Baker, Arizona State reclamation engineer. K. S. Wingfield, economic engineer, and H. S. Casey Abbott, Arizona Farm Bureau Federation, filed supporting statements.



# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Bills Introduced:** Seven public bills, H. R. 4083-4089; and three resolutions, H. J. Res. 225 and 226, and H. Con. Res. 57, were introduced. Pages 8372-8373

**Bills Reported:** Bills and resolutions were reported, as follows:

H. Res. 270, rule providing 2 hours' debate on H. R. 1639, amending Employers' Liability Act so as to limit venue in actions brought in U. S. district courts or in State courts under such act (H. Rept. 788);

H. Res. 271, rule providing 1 hour debate on H. Con. Res. 54, providing for the use of Schick General Hospital, Clinton, Iowa, by the Veterans' Administration (H. Rept. 789);

H. R. 3043, transferring lands to the Secretary of the Interior (H. Rept. 790);

Three private claims bills, S. 1360, H. R. 2350, and H. R. 1931 (H. Repts. 791-793, incl.); and

H. R. 4055, providing increases in pensions of veterans of Indian wars and their dependents (H. R. 794). Page 8372

**Tax Bill:** The Committee on Ways and Means was granted permission to file by midnight Thursday, July 3, a report on H. R. 3950, a bill to reduce individual income-tax payments, which, when filed, will be House Report No. 795. Page 8343

**Sugar:** The Committee on Agriculture received permission to file by midnight Thursday, July 3, a report on H. R. 4075, the Sugar Act of 1948, which, when filed, will be House Report No. 796. Page 8360

**State, Justice, and Commerce:** Adopted the conference report (H. Rept. 787) on H. R. 3311, making appropriations of \$551,325,932 for the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and the Judiciary in 1948, thereby completing congressional action. Pages 8349-8353

**Unemployment Tax:** Passed H. R. 4011, amending the Federal Unemployment Tax, providing that a State law may, without violating present standards, permit voluntary contributions to be used in computation of reduced rates, if such contributions are paid within 120 days after the beginning of the rate year or prior to January 1, 1948, whichever is later. This amendment will be applicable only with respect to contribution rate years beginning after December 31, 1945. Pages 8345-8346

**Program for Monday:** Adjourned at 3:04 p. m., until noon Monday, July 7, for consideration of the Consent Calendar, and bills under suspension of the rules.

## Reports on Committee Meetings

### TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST

*Committee on Agriculture:* Held hearings on H. J. Res. 205, authorizes sale of timber within Tongass National Forest, and heard James E. Curry and the following members of the Alaskan Native Brotherhood: Frank G. Johnson, Frank Teratarovich, Andrew Hope, and Fred Grant, Sr.

Met in executive session and ordered favorably reported S. 512, to extend the provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands; S. 338, a plant quarantine bill, as amended; and H. R. 1809, to facilitate the use and occupancy of national forest lands, as amended, limiting the bill to Alaska only.

### MILK PRICE SUPPORT

*Committee on Banking and Currency:* Held hearings on H. R. 3370, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to support the price of milk at not less than \$3.10 per hundred pounds, and heard Representative Murray, who testified in favor of the bill; and Don Anderson, Director of the Dairy Branch, who represented the Department of Agriculture.

### D. C. HOME RULE

*Committee on the District of Columbia:* Subcommittee on Home Rule and Reorganization met on the problem of Federal agencies operating in the District of Columbia, and heard Mastin White, Solicitor, Department of the Interior; Newton Drury, National Park Service; Arthur E. Demaray, Association Director, National Park Service; Irving C. Root, National Capital Parks; and Robert C. Goodwin, USES, Department of Labor.

Subcommittee on Insurance, Public Utilities, and Banking met in executive session and ordered favorably reported to the full committee H. R. 3998, a compromise bill on casualty insurance. S. 629 was held for full committee action. H. R. 1632 and H. R. 1688 were considered but no action taken.

### WORLD HEALTH

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on National and International Movements held hearings on H. J. Res. 161, World Health Organization, and heard Dr. G. Foard McGinnes, vice chairman in charge of health service of the National Red Cross; Dr. H. van Zile Hyde, Department of State; and Durward V. Sandifer, Department of State.







State experiment stations, soil-conservation education and technical advice through the Extension Service, the Agricultural Conservation Program through State committees and limited to practices specified by the Extension Service, a "more representative" State committee, etc. (pp. 8927-9).

19. EMPLOYEES' LOYALTY. Rep. Eberharter, Pa., spoke against H. R. 3813, the Federal-employees' loyalty bill (pp. 8929-30).
20. APPROPRIATIONS. Received from the President an appropriation estimate of \$861,000 to carry on operations of the Remount Service for the fiscal year 1948 (H. Doc. 397); to Appropriations Committee (p. 8931).
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment S. 512, to extend the FHA, SCS, and ACP programs to the Virgin Islands (H. Rept. 878)(p. 8932).
22. RECLAMATION. The Public Lands Committee reported with amendments H. R. 2873, to amend the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (H. Rept. 880)(p. 8932).
23. CIVIL-SERVICE RETIREMENT. The Post Office and Civil Service Committee reported without amendment H. R. 4127, to amend the Civil Service Retirement Act (H. Rept. 888)(p. 8932).
24. GRAZING. The Public Lands Committee reported without amendment H. R. 4079, to amend the Taylor Grazing Act (H. Rept. 890)(p. 8932).
25. ADJOURNED until Mon., July 14 (p. 8931). Legislative program for this week, as announced by Majority Leader Halleck: Mon., D. C. legislation; Tues., private calendar; some time during week: H. R. 3813, employees' loyalty; H. R. 4102, Science Foundation; S. J. Res. 123, repeal of certain war and emergency powers; etc. (pp. 8926-7).

SENATE - July 11 (continued)

26. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM. The Daily Digest states: "Following disposition of income-tax reduction bill, H. R. 3950, the Senate will complete action on H. R. 3678, War Department appropriation, and then debate H. R. 3839, independent offices appropriation bill, and H. R. 3601, Agriculture Department appropriation bill. Saturday sessions are likely for the remainder of the session, and the program of legislation is indicated by the following statement by Senator Taft: 'After disposition of the tax-reduction bill and the remaining appropriation bills, the following bills now on the calendar will be proposed for consideration. These bills have been selected largely because it is hoped they can be disposed of without long debate. Several other important measures apparently involving more controversy are under consideration for action before adjournment on July 26. The calendar will be called from time to time for bills to which there is no objection: H. Con. Res. 51, Reorganization Plan No. 3... S. 1584, to establish a 5-year sugar program...' (pp. D524-5.)

BILLS INTRODUCED - July 11

27. AGRICULTURAL INVESTIGATION. S. Res. 147, by Sen. Thyne, Minn. (for himself and Sens. Aiken and Young), to direct the Agriculture and Forestry Committee to study "existing and pending agricultural legislation and...the trends, needs, and problems of agriculture" and to report to the Senate at the earliest practicable date. To Agriculture and Forestry Committee. (p. 8831.)



- by Sen. McCarthy, Wis.,
28. HOUSING INVESTIGATION. S. Con. Res. 25, to create a joint committee to investigate the housing situation. To Banking and Currency Committee. (p. 8831.)
  29. RECLAMATION. H. R. 4157, by Rep. Engle, Calif., to authorize the American River Basin development, Calif., for irrigation and reclamation. To Public Lands Committee. (p. 8932.)
  30. BANKING. H. R. 4166, by Rep. Lemke, N. Dak., to create the Bank of the United States, etc. To Banking and Currency Committee. (p. 8932.)
  31. LATIN AMERICA. H. R. 4168, by Rep. Jonkman, Mich., to provide for reincorporation of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs. To Foreign Affairs Committee. (p. 8933.)

#### ITEMS IN APPENDIX - July 11

32. FLOOD CONTROL. Rep. Reeves, Mo., inserted a Kansas City Star editorial favoring additional flood-control appropriations (pp. A3675-6).
33. RURAL ELECTRIFICATION. Extension of remarks of Rep. Poage, Tex., commending REA in connection with Rural Electrification Week (pp. A3690-1).
34. APPROPRIATIONS; FOREIGN RELIEF. Extension of remarks of Rep. Horan, Wash., saying the rise in food costs is largely attributable to "inflationary budgets" and shipments of food for foreign relief (p. A3701).

#### SENATE - July 12

35. TAXATION. Continued debate on H. R. 3950, the tax-reduction bill (pp. 8937-89).
36. RECESSED until Mon., July 14 (p. 8990).

#### HOUSE - July 12

37. FARM LABOR. The Agriculture Committee discussed in executive session H. R. 3367, to provide for a permanent farm-labor program through the Extension Service (p. D528).
38. RESEARCH. The Agriculture Committee (but did not actually report) H. R. 4110, to amend the Research and Marketing Act of 1946 so as to provide that not less than 20% of the funds "appropriated", rather than those "authorized to be appropriated", for general research shall be used by the State agricultural experiment stations for conducting marketing research projects approved by USDA (p. D528).
39. WOOL. The Agriculture Committee approved (but did not actually report) S. 1498, the wool price-support bill (p. D528).
40. PEANUT QUOTAS. The Agriculture Committee approved (but did not actually report) H. R. 4124, to amend the peanut-marketing quota provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (p. D528).
41. SURPLUS PROPERTY. The Expenditures in the Executive Departments Committee approved (but did not actually report) H. R. 119, which allows WAA to dispose of plants which cost the Government \$1 million (now \$5 million) or more without further authority from Congress; S. 1515, which makes surplus property



## EXTENSION OF BANKHEAD-JONES AND SOIL CONSERVATION ACTS TO VIRGIN ISLANDS

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JULY 11, 1947.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State  
of the Union and ordered to be printed

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Mr. HOPE, from the Committee on Agriculture, submitted the  
following

### R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 512]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (S. 512) extending provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to include the Virgin Islands, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass without amendment.

#### STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is simply that stated in the title—extension of the provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act as amended and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act as amended so that these two acts include the Virgin Islands. At the present time the Virgin Islands are not included within the scope of this legislation.

The change in existing law consists only in inserting the words “Virgin Islands” or “and Virgin Islands” in the relevant sections of the two acts.

According to testimony presented to the committee there appears to be no legislative history connected with the omission of the Virgin Islands from the territory in which these two farm programs may be carried on. The programs authorized by these acts are now carried on in Puerto Rico and the extension to the nearby Virgin Islands will entail very little additional expense.

While the population of the Virgin Islands is small (about 25,000), it is dependent for its existence almost entirely on a single agricultural crop—sugarcane. In recent years the growing of sugarcane has become increasingly unprofitable on the islands and there is a definite need to encourage the development of a more diversified farming,

which will at least produce the food needed for consumption on the islands, and for the establishment of family-sized farms for this purpose.

Soil conservation is of primary importance to the islands. There are no running streams on any of the Virgin Islands and well water is undependable and unsatisfactory for most agricultural uses. While there is an annual rainfall of approximately 48 inches, the normal evaporation is approximately 78 inches. Under the circumstances, it is important to conserve and utilize in the most effective manner possible the water supplies which are available on the islands. Erosion and the continued planting and replanting of sugarcane on the tillable land make soil-conservation measures necessary.

The committee is aware of no reason why the Virgin Islands was excluded from the scope of these two acts and believes that there is every justification for now amending them to include this area. A letter from Secretary of the Interior Krug likewise recommending passage of the act is included herewith and made a part of this report.

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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, June 24, 1947.

Hon. CLIFFORD R. HOPE,  
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,  
House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. HOPE: It is my understanding that there is pending before your committee S. 512, an act to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands. This measure passed the Senate on May 22. In my opinion, enactment of this measure is of fundamental importance to agriculture in the Virgin Islands, and I wish, therefore, to urge its early and favorable consideration by your committee.

Section 1 of the measure proposes the inclusion of the Virgin Islands in the agricultural lending program provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

The Congress in its last session enacted the Farmers Home Administration Act, which coordinates and consolidates the numerous agricultural lending activities of the Federal Government. Incidental to this action, the functions of the Farm Security Administration were abolished and by amendments simultaneously made to the Bankhead-Jones Act provision was made for the undertaking of similar functions under that act. Although the Farm Security Administration had previously carried on operations in the Virgin Islands, these islands were entirely omitted from the scope of the new agricultural lending program. There is no apparent reason why the Virgin Islands should be denied further participation in a type of activity that is so well adapted to and the success of which has been so amply demonstrated in that area.

Perhaps the greatest single economic need of the Virgin Islands is for the development of a basic agricultural economy, strong and broad enough to make those islands eventually self-sustaining. In the island of St. Croix, the agricultural center of the group, the economic welfare of practically its entire population is tied up in one way or another with the condition of agriculture. Unfortunately a one-crop system (sugar-cane) has been in effect in the islands for a great number of years. Periodic droughts, higher freight rates to the mainland, and other related factors have put the Virgin Islands sugar industry at a competitive disadvantage with that in other areas. The result has been that the main agricultural pursuit of the islands is unprofitable while no others have as yet been sufficiently developed to meet adequately even only local consumption requirements. No solution to the problems of the islands can be effective and lasting which ignores this fundamental situation.

For many years efforts have been made to diversify agriculture in the islands. A Virgin Islands small-farm homestead project, inaugurated shortly after the Department of the Interior assumed jurisdiction of the islands, met with some success and led eventually to requests by this Department for extension of Farm Security activities to the islands. The homestead project was transferred to

that agency and in 1942 it commenced operations in the islands directed toward the encouragement of small, family-type, diversified farms. To anyone familiar with the Virgin Islands, it has been apparent that the Farm Security work has been successful and that it promised even greater results.

The assistance formerly rendered by the Farm Security Administration in loans and in technical guidance is essential to the further development in diversified agriculture.

Under the Bankhead-Jones Act numerous activities carried on under the Farm Security Administration will be continued in the States and the other Territorial areas. The Virgin Islands particularly need to be included in this national program. Because past experience has shown their successful application to the islands, Farm Security activities carried over to the Bankhead-Jones Act should be extended to them.

Section 2 of the proposed legislation would redefine the word "State" in the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to include the Virgin Islands and thus authorize the Department of Agriculture to carry on work in soil and moisture conservation in that possession.

It is impossible to stress too strongly the importance of such work to the Virgin Islands. Studies in the area have consistently indicated that soil and water conservation and the intelligent use of water resources are essential to any effective program for stabilizing the economy and broadening opportunities for employment. The islands have been too severely handicapped by too little precipitation, poorly distributed for productive cultivation, by excessive run-off of water, soil erosion, and the lowering of the water table, the latter particularly true in St. Croix, the main agricultural island in the group. Unless this process is arrested and reversed, a large part of St. Croix is apt to become uninhabitable and might, in the foreseeable future, have to be abandoned. Throughout the islands the problem is complicated by the periodic recurrence of severe and long-lasting droughts, soil depletion, and improper use of land, which has resulted in the reduction of the quantity and quality of crops, milk, livestock, and poultry, and has affected the health and wealth of the people.

If the Virgin Islands are to be made self-sufficient, one of the most important things we will have to do is develop a basic and self-sustaining agricultural economy. Extension of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the islands is an indispensable preliminary to the effective treatment of the problem.

The Department of Agriculture had already begun this essential work in the Virgin Islands when an administrative decision indicated that authority to proceed was doubtful without amendment to the act. Work was promptly suspended. It can be resumed only if such an amendment is as now proposed is enacted.

The Department of Agriculture has expressed its approval of S. 512. For a statement of that Department's views on the proposal, I refer you to Senate Report No. 158 of this Congress, wherein is set forth Agriculture's report to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry relative to S. 512. I concur in the recommendation of the Department of Agriculture that S. 512 be enacted.

Sincerely yours,

J. A. KRUG,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*

A letter from the Secretary of Agriculture to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry give further explanation to the need for this legislation and was included in the Senate report on the bill. It is therefore included here, as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
*Washington, March 24, 1947.*

HON. ARTHUR CAPPER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture and Forestry,*  
*United States Senate.*

DEAR SENATOR CAPPER: This is in further reference to your request of February 7, 1947, which was acknowledged on February 11, for a report on S. 512, a bill to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands.

Section 1 of the proposed legislation amends subsection (b) of section 41, and section 54 of title IV of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act as amended, except insofar as these sections affect title III, by adding the Virgin Islands to the specified areas to which the provisions of the sections to be amended are



extended. The Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and Puerto Rico are named by the present sections and the proposed amendments merely add the Virgin Islands.

Section 2 of the bill amends subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, by specifically adding the Virgin Islands to the areas in which that act shall apply. When the act of April 27, 1935 (49 Stat. 163-164), an act to provide for the protection of land resources against soil erosion, and for other purposes, was amended by the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of February 29, 1936 (49 Stat. 1148-1152), by adding additional sections, section 17 (a) of the amendatory legislation while including most of the other lands of the Nation, unfortunately omitted naming the Virgin Islands. The United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and the possession of Puerto Rico were named and the proposed amendment merely adds the Virgin Islands. The language of section 2 of the bill is identical with section 1 of S. 2087 and H. R. 6088, introduced, respectively, by the chairmen of the Committees on Agriculture and Forestry of the Senate, and on Agriculture of the House, in the second session of the Seventy-ninth Congress, upon the recommendation of this Department.

Section 3 of the bill repeals all acts or parts of acts in conflict with the proposed legislation.

Under the provisions of the Farmers Home Administration Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 1062), the Farm Security Administration and the Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Division of the Farm Credit Administration were abolished and the assets, functions, and liabilities of these two agencies were transferred to the Farmers Home Administration on November 1, 1946. Prior to the enactment of this legislation, the Farm Security Administration was authorized to make rural rehabilitation operating loans in the Virgin Islands. However, no authority existed for the making of farm purchase loans by the Farm Security Administration under title I of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U. S. C. 1000-1006) or for making crop production and harvesting loans by the Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Division of Farm Credit Administration under the act of January 29, 1937, as amended (12 U. S. C. 1020i-1020n, 1020o). The Farmers Home Administration Act provides for production and subsistence loans, tenant purchase loans, and insured mortgages, but does not provide authority for these operations in the Virgin Islands. The reasons for the exclusion of the Virgin Islands from the benefits of the programs administered by the Farmers Home Administration were not indicated in the legislative history of the act. The proposed legislation would authorize the Farmers Home Administration to administer such programs in the islands.

As already stated, legislation identical to section 2 of S. 512 was recommended by the Department to the Seventy-ninth Congress. Subsequent to this recommendation, Virgin Islands laws have created two soil conservation districts—one including the island of St. Croix and the other the islands of St. Thomas and St. John. These districts, as well as the farmers and ranchers, are requesting assistance from the Soil Conservation Service in carrying out of soil and water conservation work. Although, due to the size of the Islands, the soil and water conservation problems do not affect as extensive areas as in most of the States, they are, however, of equal importance to the people concerned. Their voluntary action in forming soil conservation districts with which the Department could cooperate most effectively in rendering the needed assistance, has further increased the Department's desire of having the Soil Conservation Service give its full aid in helping them to establish a sound conservation program in the islands. The proposed legislation would permit such a program.

Similarly, the extending of authority of sections 7 to 17 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands will permit assistance in obtaining prompt and widespread application of suitable conservation practices through payments and other assistance to farmers provided in the agricultural conservation program administered by the Production and Marketing Administration. The Department is in favor of S. 512 from this point of view also.

The Governor recently forwarded to the President, the Senate, the House of Representatives, and to the Secretaries of the Interior and of this Department copies of a resolution passed December 6, 1946, by the legislative assembly, petitioning for the enactment of appropriate legislation to permit activities of the Farm Security Administration and the Soil Conservation Service in the islands.

The Virgin Islands, as a possession of the United States, would appear equitably entitled to such assistance in accordance with the desires of its local governments



and people. Moreover, the importance of protecting, maintaining, and improving suitable agricultural conditions on all of the agricultural lands of the Nation is generally recognized.

For these reasons the Department is in favor of S. 512 and recommends that it be enacted.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that it has no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

CLINTON P. ANDERSON, *Secretary*.

#### CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 2a of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill are shown as follows: Existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets; new matter is printed in italics; existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman.

The Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (as amended by the Farmers Home Administration Act of 1946):

- \* \* \* \* \*
- SEC. 41. For the purposes of this Act, the Secretary shall have the power to—
- (a) Appoint (without regard to the civil-service laws or the Classification Act of 1923, as amended) such experts as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this Act: *Provided*, That the Administrator of the Farmers' Home Administration shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The salary of none of such experts or the Administrator shall exceed \$10,000 per annum. The Secretary shall also have the power to appoint, subject to the provisions of the civil-service laws, such other officers and employees as may be necessary and fix their compensation in accordance with the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, except that for a period of not to exceed nine months from the effective date of this provision, the Secretary may make appointments and continue employees of the Farm Security Administration and the non-civil-service employees of the Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Division, utilized in the performance of the functions of the Farmers Home Administration under this Act, without regard to the civil-service laws or regulations.
- (b) The Secretary may administer his power and duties under this Act through such area finance, State, and local offices in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and in Puerto Rico *and the Virgin Islands* as he determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area composed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico *and the Virgin Islands*) if he determines that the volume of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate State offices.
- (c) Accept and utilize voluntary and uncompensated services, and with the consent of the agency concerned, utilize the officers, employees, equipment, and information of any agency of the Federal Government, or of any State, Territory, or political subdivision.
- (d) Within the limits of appropriations made therefor, make necessary expenditures for personal services and rent at the seat of government and elsewhere; contract stenographic reporting services; purchase and exchange of supplies and equipment, lawbooks, books of reference, directories, periodicals, newspapers, and press clippings; travel and subsistence expenses, including the expense of attendance at meetings and conferences; purchase, operation, and maintenance, at the seat of government and elsewhere, of motor-propelled passenger-carrying and other vehicles; printing and binding; and for such other facilities and services as he may from time to time find necessary for the proper administration of this Act.
- (e) Make contracts for services and purchases of supplies without regard to the provisions of section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., 1934 ed., title 41, sec. 5) when the aggregate amount involved is less than \$300.
- (f) Acquire land and interests therein without regard to section 355 of the Revised Statutes, as amended. This subsection shall not apply with respect to the acquisition of land or interests in land under title III.
- (g) Compromise or adjust claims and adjust and modify the terms of mortgages, leases, contracts, and agreements entered into or administered pursuant to this Act as circumstances may require, in the following manner:

(1) Compromise of claims of \$10,000 or more must be effected by reference to the Secretary of the Treasury or to the Attorney General, pursuant to the provisions of section 3469 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., 1940 edition, title 31, sec. 194);

(2) Claims of less than \$10,000 may be compromised or may be adjusted or reduced on the basis of a reasonable determination by the Secretary of the debtor's ability to pay and the value of the security and with or without the payment of any consideration at the time of such adjustment; releases from personal liability may also be made with or without the payment of any consideration at the time of adjustment of—

(A) borrowers who have transferred their farms to other approved applicants under agreements assuming the outstanding indebtedness to the Secretary under this title; and

(B) Borrowers who have transferred their farms to other approved applicants under agreements assuming that portion of their outstanding indebtedness to the Secretary which is equal to the earning-capacity value of the farm at the time of the transfer, and borrowers whose farms have been acquired by the Secretary, in cases where the county committees certify and the Secretary determines that the borrowers have cooperated in good faith with the Secretary, have farmed in a workmanlike manner, used due diligence to maintain the security against loss, and otherwise fulfilled the covenants incident to their loans, to the best of their abilities;

(C) No compromise or adjustment shall be made upon terms more favorable than recommended by the appropriate County Committee established pursuant to section 42 of this Act;

(3) Any claim of \$100 or less, which has been due and payable for three years or more, and where the debtor has no assets from which the claim could be collected or is deceased and has left no estate, or has been absent from his last known address for a period of at least two years and his whereabouts cannot be ascertained without undue expense, may be charged off or released by the Secretary upon a report and favorable recommendation of the employee of the Administration having charge of the claim: *Provided*, That claims of \$10 or less may be canceled and released whenever it appears to the Secretary that further collection efforts would be ineffectual or likely to prove uneconomical; and

(4) At the end of each fiscal year the Secretary shall report to Congress the names of all persons against whom claims in excess of \$1,000 have been compromised, the address of such person, the nature of the claim, the amount of the compromise, and the reason therefor.

(h) Collect all claims and obligations arising or administered under this Act, or under any mortgage, lease, contract, or agreement entered into or administered pursuant to this Act and, if in his judgment necessary and advisable, pursue the same to final collection in any court having jurisdiction. All legal work arising out of such claims and obligations, including, but not limited to, the prosecution and defense of all litigation, is authorized to be performed, as determined by the Solicitor of the Department of Agriculture, through the Department of Justice, by attorneys of the Office of the Solicitor of the Department of Agriculture, or by local counsel approved by the Solicitor of the Department of Agriculture, whose fees, upon approval by the Solicitor, shall be paid by the Secretary; and

(i) Make such rules and regulations and such delegations of authority as he deems necessary to carry out this Act.

#### EXTENSION OF TERRITORIES

SEC. 54. The provisions of this Act shall extend to the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and to Puerto Rico *and the Virgin Islands*. In the case of Alaska and Puerto Rico *and the Virgin Islands* the term "county" as used in this Act shall be deemed synonymous with [the] "Territory", or any subdivision thereof as may be designated by the Secretary, and payments under section 33 of this Act shall be made to the Governor of the Territory or to the fiscal agent of such subdivision.

NOTE.—The above amendments are made by section 1 of the bill. Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (Public, No. 461, 74th Cong.):

SEC. 17. (a) This Act shall apply to the United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and the possessions of Puerto Rico *and the Virgin Islands*, and, as used in this Act, the term "State" includes Alaska, Hawaii, [and] Puerto Rico, *and the Virgin Islands*.

(b) This Act may be cited as the "Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act".

NOTE.—The above amendment is made by section 2 of the bill.







80TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 512**

[Report No. 878]

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 1947

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture

JULY 11, 1947

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union  
and ordered to be printed

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**AN ACT**

To extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act  
and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to  
the Virgin Islands.

1      *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2      *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3      That the following sections of title IV of the Bankhead-  
4      Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, except insofar as they  
5      affect title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act,  
6      as amended, are hereby amended as follows:

7      (a) Subsection (b) of section 41 is amended to read:  
8      "The Secretary may administer his power and duties under  
9      this Act through such area finance, State, and local offices

1 in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and  
2 Hawaii and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as he  
3 determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional  
4 offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The  
5 Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area com-  
6 posed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico  
7 and the Virgin Islands) if he determines that the volume  
8 of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate  
9 State offices."

10 (b) Section 54 is amended to read: "The provisions  
11 of this Act shall extend to the Territories of Alaska and  
12 Hawaii and to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the  
13 case of Alaska and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the  
14 term 'county' as used in this Act shall be deemed synonymous  
15 with 'Territory', or any subdivision thereof as may be desig-  
16 nated by the Secretary, and payments under section 33 of  
17 this Act shall be made to the Governor of the Territory or  
18 to the fiscal agent of such subdivision."

19 SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Con-  
20 servation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151), is  
21 amended to read as follows: "This Act shall apply to the  
22 United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and  
23 the possession of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and,  
24 as used in this Act, the term 'State' includes Alaska, Hawaii,  
25 Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands."



**1** SEC. 3. All Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith  
**2** are hereby repealed.

Passed the Senate May 22 (legislative day, April 21),  
1947.

Attest:

CARL A. LOEFFLER,

*Secretary.*

Union Calendar No. 435

80<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

**S. 512**

[Report No. 878]

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## **AN ACT**

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To extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones  
Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation  
and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin  
Islands.

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MAY 23, 1947

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on  
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cate the shortcomings and limitations of existing legislation.

It is a matter of knowledge to all Members of the House that prices and living costs have increased substantially in recent months, and there is little evidence that this trend will shortly abate. This fact amply justifies increases in subsistence allowances for Government trainees, and it is appropriate not only that these increases should be provided for in service-connected cases but in all other cases where former members of the armed forces are pursuing training and education to fit themselves for leadership in business, craft, economic, and professional fields.

I am happy to state that my colleague the gentlelady from Massachusetts, with admirable devotion to the cause of the veteran, and her able committee, have labored with untiring energy and zeal to bring these measures to the floor. She has taken a special interest in the wounded and incapacitated, and especially the amputees, who should be, I submit, a very first charge upon our consideration and generosity. Many of these boys have been grievously wounded, maimed, and disfigured as a result of their valiant war service for us and for democracy. Their condition and plight deserves our utmost and constant attention. We must never forget them or overlook their needs. Congress has delayed to some extent in furnishing them with automobiles to provide for their comfort and well-being, out of which our amputees have derived much pleasure and happiness, and I believe that we should extend the coverage of this legislation to include still other classes of our maimed and wounded. The cost of these measures is trivial compared to the sacrifice of these boys. At a time when we have been pouring and lavishing billions upon peoples in foreign lands, we should have, I think, some concern for providing for those who sacrificed so much in our behalf during the war, and who are now seeking the chance to get proper care, treatment, and the opportunity to live the balance of their lives in relative security and comfort. As to some, there is little more they can derive from life. Let us answer their plea.

The case for extending the presumptive clauses to chronic and tropical diseases is, to my mind, unanswerable. Every Member of this House has knowledge of some constituents who were wholly well and physically sound before entering the service but who as a result of service now suffer from some disease indigenous to malarial-infested swamps or fever-ridden jungles of the tropics, or some other chronic disease traceable to war service. This Congress has authorized billions of dollars for the general purposes of the Government and for foreign relief. Some speak of the need for economy and I agree with their premise in general. We are desirous of economizing, of balancing the budget, reducing the debt and putting our financial affairs in order. But in the name of justice and decency and gratitude for selfless sacrifice, let us not try to economize at the expense of those who were disabled, wounded, and maimed physically and mentally in the last great war. Let us

move now before adjournment promptly to take up and pass all the principal measures which have been reported from the committee of the distinguished gentlelady from Massachusetts. Not only will those concerned be appreciative of this action on our part but the whole country, always eager to serve our veterans and discharge in part our great debt to them, will approve and applaud our favorable action on this legislation in behalf of our beloved veterans.

(Mr. PHILBIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. LECOMPTE, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H. R. 3647. An act to extend certain powers of the President under title III of the Second War Powers Act and the Export Control Act, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 564. An act to provide for the performance of the duties of the office of President in case of removal, resignation, death, or inability both of the President and Vice President.

#### BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. LECOMPTE, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee did on this day present to the President, for his approval, bills of the House of the following titles:

H. R. 1585. An act for the relief of Adolph Pfannenstiehl;

H. R. 1658. An act for the relief of Norman Thoreson and Thoreson Bros., a partnership;

H. R. 1954. An act for the relief of Robert Hinton; and

H. R. 1955. An act for the relief of Hugh C. Gilliam.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McDONOUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 12 minutes p. m.) under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, July 14, 1947, at 12 o'clock noon.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

914. A letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting a draft of a proposed bill to establish eligibility for burial in national cemeteries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Public Lands.

915. A letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting a draft of a proposed bill to authorize the President of the United States of America to direct the United States Maritime Commission to charter certain vessels to persons not citizens of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

916. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting drafts of proposed provisions pertaining to existing appropriations of the United States Maritime Commission (H. Doc. No. 394); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

917. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a deficiency estimate of appropriation for the fiscal year 1944 in the amount of \$750,000 for the Navy Department and the Naval Establishment (H. Doc. No. 395); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

918. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a supplemental estimate of appropriation in the amount of \$2,350 for the legislative branch, House of Representatives (H. Doc. No. 396); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

919. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the fiscal year 1948 in the amount of \$861,000 for the Department of Agriculture (H. Doc. No. 397); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

920. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a deficiency estimate of appropriation for the fiscal year 1947 in the amount of \$23,000,000 for the Navy Department and the Naval Establishment (H. Doc. No. 398); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

921. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a revised estimate of the administrative expenses for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and its subsidiaries for the fiscal year 1948, involving a decrease of \$10,917,300, in the form of amendments to the budget for said fiscal year (H. Doc. No. 399); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

922. A letter from the Administrator, National Housing Agency, transmitting a draft of a proposed bill for the relief of John E. Peterson; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

923. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Federal Security Agency, transmitting a draft of a proposed bill to amend the Social Security Act in connection with the payment of postage for unemployment-compensation mail and payments to the States which have submitted plans under title I, IV, V, or X of such act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

924. A letter from the Clerk of the House of Representatives, transmitting motion to dismiss of the contestee in the contested election case of Harold C. Woodward against Thomas J. O'Brien for a seat in the House of Representatives from the Sixth Congressional District of the State of Illinois (H. Doc. No. 400); to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar as follows:

Mr. LECOMPTE: Committee on House Administration. Senate Joint Resolution 129. Joint resolution to provide for the appropriate commemoration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the seat of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia; without amendment (Rept. No. 874).

Mr. LECOMPTE: Committee on House Administration. House Resolution 281. Resolution providing additional compensation for certain employees for the House of Representatives; without amendment (Rept. No. 875).

Mr. LECOMPTE: Committee on House Administration. House Resolution 282. Resolution authorizing the payment of 6 months' salary and funeral expenses in the case of William M. Day, late an employee of the House; without amendment (Rept. No. 876).

Mr. LECOMPTE: Committee on House Administration. House Resolution 283. Reso-



tion authorizing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to approve payment of gratuities during the recess of Congress, without amendment (Rept. No. 877).

Mr. HOPE: Committee on Agriculture. S. 512. An act to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands; without amendment (Rept. No. 878). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HAND: Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. H. R. 3619. A bill relating to the sale of the Mission Point Light-house Reservation, Grand Traverse County, Mich.; with an amendment (Rept. No. 879). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. WELCH: Committee on Public Lands. H. R. 2873. A bill to amend certain provisions of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939; with amendments (Rept. No. 880). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. WELCH: Committee on Public Lands. H. R. 371. A bill to transfer jurisdiction of certain lands comprising a portion of Acadia National Park, Maine, from the Department of the Interior to the Department of the Navy, and for other purposes; without amendment (Rept. No. 881). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. WELCH: Committee on Public Lands. H. R. 2793. A bill authorizing an appropriation for the construction, extension, and improvement of a State tuberculosis sanatorium at Galen, Mont., to provide facilities for the treatment of tuberculous Indians in Montana; with amendments (Rept. No. 882). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HINSHAW: Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce submits a report on aids to air navigation and landing; without amendment (Rept. No. 885). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. MICHENER: Committee on the Judiciary. House Resolution 254. Resolution directing the Secretary of State to transmit forthwith to the Committee on the Judiciary certain documents, records, and memoranda relating to one Serge Rubinstein; without amendment (Rept. No. 886). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. MICHENER: Committee on the Judiciary. House Resolution 255. Resolution directing the Attorney General to transmit forthwith to the Committee on the Judiciary certain documents, records, and memoranda relating to one Serge Rubinstein; without amendment (Rept. No. 887). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. CORBETT: Committee on Post Office and Civil Service. H. R. 4127. A bill to amend the Civil Service Retirement Act of May 29, 1930, as amended; without amendment (Rept. No. 888). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. FULTON: Committee on Foreign Affairs. House Joint Resolution 233. Joint resolution authorizing the President to approve the trusteeship agreement for the Territory of the Pacific Islands; without amendment (Rept. No. 889). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. WELCH: Committee on Public Lands. H. R. 4079. A bill to amend the Taylor Grazing Act of June 28, 1934 (48 Stat. 1269), as amended June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1976); without amendment (Rept. No. 890). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. BEALL: Committee on the District of Columbia. S. 924. An act to credit active service in the military or naval forces of the United States in determining eligibility for

and the amount of benefits from the policemen and firemen's relief fund, District of Columbia; without amendment (Rept. No. 892). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. O'HARA: Committee on the District of Columbia. S. 1462. An act to authorize the official reporters of the municipal court for the District of Columbia to collect fees for transcripts, and for other purposes; without amendment (Rept. No. 894). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. BEALL: Committee on the District of Columbia. H. R. 2471. A bill to provide for periodical reimbursement of the general fund of the District of Columbia for certain expenditures made for the compensation, uniforms, equipment, and other expenses of the United States Park Police force; without amendment (Rept. No. 895). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. O'HARA: Committee on the District of Columbia. H. R. 2984. A bill to amend the act of June 1, 1910, so as to regulate the installation of radio or television transmitting antennae, masts, or other structures in the District of Columbia; with amendments (Rept. No. 896). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. O'HARA: Committee on the District of Columbia. H. R. 3045. A bill to place the Office of Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia under the jurisdiction, supervision, and control of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. No. 897). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. O'HARA: Committee on the District of Columbia. H. R. 3852. A bill to amend the act entitled "An act for the retirement of public school teachers in the District of Columbia," approved August 7, 1946; without amendment (Rept. No. 898). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. MILLER of Nebraska: Committee on the District of Columbia. H. R. 3873. A bill to redefine the powers and duties of the Board of Public Welfare of the District of Columbia, to establish a Department of Public Welfare, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. No. 899). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. BEALL: Committee on the District of Columbia. H. R. 3978. A bill to provide for the temporary advancement in rank and increase in salary of lieutenants in the Metropolitan Police force of the District of Columbia serving as supervisors of certain squads; without amendment (Rept. No. 900). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. DIRKSEN: Committee on the District of Columbia. H. R. 3998. A bill to provide for regulation of certain insurance rates in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; without amendment (Rept. No. 901). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. FELLOWS: Committee on the Judiciary. H. R. 1215. A bill for the relief of Kazuo Oda Takahashi; with an amendment (Rept. No. 883). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. FELLOWS: Committee on the Judiciary. H. R. 3088. A bill for the relief of William Dudley Ward-Smith; without

amendment (Rept. No. 884). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Mr. O'HARA: Committee on the District of Columbia. S. 1402. An act to authorize the parishes and congregations of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the District of Columbia to establish bylaws governing the election of their vestrymen; without amendment (Rept. No. 893). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. BRADLEY:

H. R. 4155. A bill to declare certain rights of citizens of the United States, and for the better assurance of the protection of such citizens and other persons within the several States from mob violence and lynching, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CELLER:

H. R. 4156. A bill to provide citizenship for persons with maritime wartime service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ENGLE of California:

H. R. 4157. A bill to authorize the American River Basin development, California, for irrigation and reclamation and other purposes; to the Committee on Public Lands.

By Mr. KEFAUVER:

H. R. 4158. A bill to amend the Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act, as amended; to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

By Mr. LECOMPTE:

H. R. 4159. A bill to provide for equitable adjustment of the insurance status of certain members of the armed forces; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PHILLIPS of Tennessee:

H. R. 4160. A bill to amend the National Service Life Insurance Act of 1940, as amended; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PRICE of Florida:

H. R. 4161. A bill to provide that transfers of obsolete and condemned vessels by the Secretary of the Navy shall become effective 30 days after having been reported to the Congress if not disapproved by the Congress within such 30-day period; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. ROGERS of Massachusetts:

H. R. 4162. A bill to provide military status for women who served overseas with the Army of the United States during World War I; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WEICHEL:

H. R. 4163. A bill to authorize medical and hospital service for those employed in the maritime service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

H. R. 4164. A bill to authorize a preliminary examination, study, and survey of the area in the vicinity of Bellevue, Ohio, and surrounding area; to the Committee on Public Works.

By Mr. HOWELL:

H. R. 4165. A bill to amend the Federal Airport Act; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

By Mr. LEMKE:

H. R. 4166. A bill providing for Congress to coin and issue money and regulate the value thereof by establishing the Bank of the United States, owned, operated, and controlled by the Government of the United States; setting forth the scope and manner of the bank's operations; creating a Board of Control and defining the powers and duties of the Board and other persons charged with the bank's management; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

By Mr. DEWART:

H. R. 4167. A bill to authorize the State of Montana to lease her State lands for the pro-







Committee.

HOUSE - continued

59. PLANT QUARANTINE. Passed as reported S. 338, to authorize USDA to limit importation of nursery stock and require that such stock be grown in post-entry quarantine to determine whether it is infested or infected (p. 9748).
60. VIRGIN ISLANDS. Passed without amendment S. 512, to extend the FHA, SCS, and ACP programs to the Virgin Islands (p. 9748). This bill will now be sent to the President.
61. ECONOMIC REPORT. Both Houses received from the President a supplement to the Economic Report (H.Doc. 409) (pp. 9635, 9721).

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COMMITTEE-HEARINGS ANNOUNCEMENTS for July 22: S. Public Lands, agricultural resources (Brannan to testify); S. Appropriations, deficiency appropriation bill(ex.)

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For supplemental information and copies of legislative material referred to, call Ext. 4654 or send to Room 113 Adm. Arrangements may be made to be kept advised, routinely, of developments on any particular bill.

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## SUPPORT PRICE FOR MILK

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 3370) to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to support the price of milk at not less than \$3.10 per hundred pounds.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, this involves a question of policy, and I ask unanimous consent that the bill be passed over without prejudice.

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I think in fairness at least the committee ought to know what the bill provides.

Mr. WOLCOTT. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. I yield.

Mr. WOLCOTT. This does not change policy at all.

Mr. KEAN. It puts milk in with all of the other things.

Mr. WOLCOTT. No; it does not. Milk already comes under the terms of the Steagall amendment. Any commodity where the Secretary of Agriculture has asked the farmers to expand their production for war purposes comes under the Steagall amendment, and the support price is 90 percent of that parity. All we ask in this case is that the Secretary of Agriculture set parity on milk so that a support price can be determined. The price of milk at the present time is above what the support price would be anyway. So this is merely for future use, compelling the Secretary of Agriculture to take such action as he is supposed to take under the Steagall amendment, and has never taken. It does not change any policy at all. It merely reaffirms the policy which has been in existence for 3 or 4 years.

Mr. KEAN. How much will this bill increase the cost of milk to the children in my district?

Mr. WOLCOTT. Not a cent.

Mr. KEAN. Who is going to benefit, then?

Mr. WOLCOTT. The farmer is going to benefit from knowing exactly what the support price of milk really is, and the farmer will know whether he should produce milk or not.

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I am sure there is nothing in this bill that should be objected to. The original bill set \$3.10, because, in April, when I put the bill in the hopper, that was 90 percent of parity for milk. I was not trying to get 100 percent or 150 percent, like some crops have. Since that date the committee, in its wisdom, has changed the bill as introduced by me, and I agreed to the substitute. The chairman, the gentleman from Michigan, the Honorable JESSE WOLCOTT, and the Banking and Currency Committee voted this bill out without a dissenting vote. It does not fix the price in dollars and cents, but it sets up the formula that is in the present law. In April 1947 the support price on milk was not being put into effect according to the law of the land. That is, milk was not bringing the farmer 90 percent of parity guaranteed by law. Milk prices were in a nose dive in April. Since that time conditions in this country have changed so that at the present time 90 percent of parity would

be some \$3.40 to \$3.50. It has nothing to do with the cost of living. I am not trying to get one cent out of anyone except what the law of the United States says. I want it to apply to milk just the same as to the rest of the commodities, and remember that milk is over 20 percent of American agriculture.

Mr. HERTER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. Yes; I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. HERTER. Do I understand the amended bill no longer fixes the price at \$3.10, but at 90 percent of parity?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. The gentleman is right. Three dollars and ten cents was 90 percent of parity the day it was introduced. The formula set up now is only in keeping with the present law.

Mr. HERTER. Then the price that is set here is not according to the Steagall amendment, which was not less than 90 percent of parity?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. This bill states the support price is "not less than 90 percent of parity" which is the law.

Mr. HERTER. It may be a variable, 90 percent of parity, or anything above that?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. The gentleman is correct. The law says "not less than 90 percent of parity" but does not fix the floor at 90 percent of parity.

Mr. HERTER. Is that what the gentleman would agree is the proper formula?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. For general purposes; but the gentleman is not going to be led into a discussion of any other particular crop or farm product.

Mr. JAVITS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. I yield.

Mr. JAVITS. How does this change existing laws?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. It does not change it.

Mr. JAVITS. Then what is the need for it?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. It is needed to see that the law is properly administered. Anyone who has been a Member of this House many years knows that the Steagall amendment was the greatest piece of agricultural legislation passed by this Congress in 20 years. We heard a lot about agriculture last week. However, under the Steagall amendment the farmer gets cash on the barrelhead the day he gets the check for the product he sells. The law was passed as brought out by the Banking and Currency Committee but it has not been properly followed. One reason we do not have pork today is because the Steagall amendment was not followed in 1943 and 1944. Hog numbers dropped from over 8,000,000 to 56,000,000 the past 4 years. The Steagall amendment was a part of the first OPA Act. Later the LaFollette-Taft amendment to the Commodity Credit Corporation, when the life of this Corporation was extended. This LaFollette-Taft amendment insisted that the law on supporting these prices at not less than 90 percent of parity be fulfilled. During

those days they allowed the packers of this country to buy light hogs for 50 and 60 percent of parity and then sell the products of those hogs as if they were from hogs they had paid 13 cents for. That was the basis on which they paid the packers the subsidy. This does not increase the cost of living 1 cent. It merely requires them to conform to the law.

Mr. COLE of New York. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. I yield.

Mr. COLE of New York. The effect of the bill in brief is to require the Secretary of Agriculture to announce in advance the support price in accordance with law and to require that the support price as announced shall last for a period of 3 months.

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. The gentleman is correct.

Mr. JAVITS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield further?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. I gladly yield.

Mr. JAVITS. Can the gentleman assure me that if this bill is passed it will cause no higher support prices than now obtain under existing law? I am very much concerned about people in cities who buy milk in bottles that are suffering now from the high cost of living. I want to know if we pass this bill, categorically, if it will increase the price of milk?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. My personal opinion is that it will be following the law. It should not increase the cost to the consumer one cent, and it will give the producers the assurance that the Congress of the United States meant what it said when it passed this Steagall amendment.

Mr. H. CARL ANDERSEN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. I yield.

Mr. H. CARL ANDERSEN. It will simply assure to the consumers that there will be sufficient production to assure them food in the future. Without knowing that he is going to get a reasonable support price the farmer may not be interested in producing certain commodities and you will find a shortage. You are apt to have a milk famine in this country.

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. I wish to say to the gentleman from Minnesota that I have appreciated his counsel in connection with this legislation. I know he realized the discrimination to which certain milk producers were being subjected.

Mr. JAVITS. Will it increase the present price for milk?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. No. Milk prices may go up for other reasons, or they may go down, but this bill will not cause an increase in the price of milk.

Mr. JAVITS. The answer is "No"?

Mr. MURRAY of Wisconsin. The answer is "No, that it should not"; and it will insure a plentiful supply of milk in the cities some day when you otherwise might not be able to get it.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?



There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the secretary of Agriculture shall use the funds available to him for carrying out the purposes of section 4 (a) of the act entitled "An act to extend the life and increase the credit resources of the Commodity Credit Corporation, and for other purposes", approved July 1, 1941, as amended (relating to supporting the prices of nonbasic agricultural commodities), so as to support, until and including December 31, 1948, a price for the producer of milk for manufacturing purposes of not less than \$8.10 per hundred pounds, at the farm, with appropriate, use, location, and seasonal differentials.

With the following committee amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof: "That the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby directed to announce the support price for all milk produced in the United States until December 31, 1948. The announced support price shall be for a period of 3 months or 6 months. The announced support price shall be 'at not less than 90 percent of parity and shall include all milk regardless of its ultimate use. The Secretary of Agriculture is directed to make this announcement within 60 days after the effective date of this act.'"

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to support the price of milk at not less than 90 percent of parity."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### EXTENSION OF BANKHEAD-JONES AND SOIL CONSERVATION ACTS TO VIRGIN ISLANDS

The Clerk called the bill (S. 512) to extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted etc.,* That the following sections of title IV of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, except insofar as they affect title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, are hereby amended as follows:

(a) Subsection (b) of section 41 is amended to read: "The Secretary may administer his power and duties under this act through such area finance, State, and local offices in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as he determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area composed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) if he determines that the volume of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate State offices."

(b) Section 54 is amended to read: "The provisions of this act shall extend to the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the case of Alaska and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the term 'county' as used in this act shall be deemed synonymous with 'Territory,' or any subdivision thereof as may be designated by the Secretary, and pay-

ments under section 33 of this act shall be made to the Governor of the Territory or to the fiscal agent of such subdivision."

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151), is amended to read as follows: "This act shall apply to the United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and the possession of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and, as used in this act, the term 'State' includes Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands."

SEC. 3. All acts or parts of acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### AMENDING THE PLANT QUARANTINE ACT

The Clerk called the bill (S. 338) to amend the Plant Quarantine Act approved August 20, 1912, as amended, by adding thereto a new section.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the Plant Quarantine Act approved August 20, 1912, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, as follows:

"SEC. —. In order to protect American agriculture, horticulture, and forestry from injurious insect pests and plant diseases new to or not widely prevalent or distributed within and throughout the United States the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to limit entry of nursery stock and bulbs from foreign countries to that needed for propagation purposes, under such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary, including the requirement, if necessary, that such nursery stock and bulbs be grown under postentry quarantine by or under the supervision of the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of determining whether imported nursery stock or bulbs may be infested or infected with plant pests not discernible by port-of-entry inspection and provided that if imported nursery stock or bulbs are found to be infested or infected with such plant pests, he is authorized to prescribe remedial measures as he may deem necessary to prevent the spread thereof."

With the following committee amendments:

Page 1, line 4, strike out the words "adding thereto a new section" and insert in lieu thereof the words "substituting a colon for the period at the end of section 1, and by adding thereto a new proviso."

Page 1, line 6, strike out all of lines 6, 7, and 8, and the first five words of line 9, and insert in lieu thereof the words "And *Provided further*, That."

Page 1, line 10, strike out the words "and bulbs."

Page 1, line 11, strike out the words "to that needed for propagation purposes."

Page 2, line 3, strike out the words "and bulbs."

Page 2, line 6, strike out the words "or bulbs."

Page 2, line 8, strike out the words "or bulbs are" and insert in lieu thereof the word "is."

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to amend the Plant Quarantine Act approved August 20, 1912, as amended, by adding a new proviso to section 1."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CONVEYING A PART OF SANTA ROSA ISLAND, FLA., TO ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLA.

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 3417) to provide for the conveyance to Escambia County, State of Florida, of a portion of Santa Rosa Island which is under the jurisdiction of the War Department.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to donate and convey to Escambia County, State of Florida, all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to that portion of Santa Rosa Island, Fla., lying in township 3 south, ranges 29 west and 30 west, which is under the jurisdiction of the War Department, excepting Old Fort Pickens and that part of Fort Pickens and Santa Rosa Island between Old Fort Pickens and Coast Guard station which shall be designated by the Secretary of War for harbor defense purposes.

SEC. 2. The property acquired pursuant to section 1 shall be retained by the said Escambia County and be used by it for such purposes as it shall deem to be in the public interest or be leased by it from time to time in whole or in part or parts to such persons and for such purposes as it shall deem to be in the public interest and upon such terms and conditions as it shall fix and always to be subject to regulation by said county whether leased or not leased but never to be otherwise disposed of or conveyed by it: *Provided*, That nothing herein shall prevent the said county from conveying said property back to the Federal Government or to the State of Florida or any agency thereof.

With the following committee amendment:

Delete section 1 and substitute therefor the following new section:

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to donate and convey to Escambia County, State of Florida, all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Fort Pickens Military Reservation, lying in township 3 south, ranges 29 and 30 west, Santa Rosa Island, Fla., determined by the Secretary of War to be surplus to the needs of the War Department, excepting that portion of the reservation known as Old Fort Pickens."

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CONVEYING PART OF SANTA ROSA ISLAND, FLA., TO OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLA.

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 3735) to authorize and direct the Secretary of War to donate and convey to Okaloosa County, State of Florida, all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a portion of Santa Rosa Island, Fla., and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to donate and convey to Okaloosa County, State of Florida, all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a portion of Santa Rosa Island, Fla., extending 1 mile east from Brooks Bridge on United States Highway 98 near the town of Fort Walton, Fla., and 2 miles west from said bridge, and to that part of Santa Rosa Island which lies east of the new channel at East Pass, said property







[PUBLIC LAW 249—80TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 339—1ST SESSION]

[S. 512]

AN ACT

To extend provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to the Virgin Islands.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the following sections of title IV of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, except insofar as they affect title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, as amended, are hereby amended as follows:

(a) Subsection (b) of section 41 is amended to read: "The Secretary may administer his power and duties under this Act through such area finance, State, and local offices in the United States and in the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as he determines to be necessary: *Provided*, That existing regional offices shall be liquidated on or before June 30, 1947. The Secretary may authorize one office to serve the area composed of two or more States (Territories or Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) if he determines that the volume of business in the area is not sufficient to justify separate State offices."

(b) Section 54 is amended to read: "The provisions of this Act shall extend to the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii and to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the case of Alaska and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, the term 'county' as used in this Act shall be deemed synonymous with 'Territory', or any subdivision thereof as may be designated by the Secretary, and payments under section 33 of this Act shall be made to the Governor of the Territory or to the fiscal agent of such subdivision."

SEC. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (49 Stat. 1151), is amended to read as follows: "This Act shall apply to the United States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, and the possessions of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and, as used in this Act, the term 'State' includes Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands."

SEC. 3. All Acts or parts of Acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved July 26, 1947.





